

A  
KNIGHTS  
Coniuring.

Done in earnest:

Discovered in Iest.

By *Thomas Dekker.*



LONDON,

Printed by T. C. for William Barley, and  
are to be solde at his Shop in  
Gracious Streets,  
1607.





TO THE VERIE  
worthy Gentleman,

Syr Thomas Glouer,  
*Knight.*



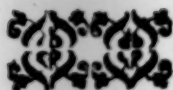
Sir, the loue I owe your name  
(for some fauours by mee re-  
ceiued from that noble-min-  
ded Gentleman (your kinse-  
man) wh is now imploied  
vpon an honourable voiage  
into *Turky*) makes my labours presume they  
shal not be vnwelcome to you. If you please  
to read me ouer, you shall finde much mor-  
rall matter in words merily set down: and a  
serious subiect inclosde in applications that  
(to some, whose salt of iudgement is  
taken off) may appeare but triuiall and  
ridiculous. The streame of custome (which  
flows through al kingdoms amongst schol-  
lers in this fashion beares mee forward and

*The Epistle Dedicatorie.*

vp in this boldnes : It being as com mon to seeke patrons to bookes , as Godfathers to children. Yet the fashion of some patrons (especially those that doate more vpon money, who is a common harlot; then on the *Muses* who are pure maides, but poore ones) is to receiue bookes with cold hands & hot liuers : they giue nothing, and yet hauered cheekes for anger, when any thing is giuen to them. I take you (Sir) to bee none of that race: the world bestowes vpon you a more worthy Character. If the Art of my Pen can (by any better labour) heighten your name and memory, you shall find my loue.

*Most ready to be all yours,*

Tho: Dekker.







## To the Reader.



N Epistle to the Reader, is but the same propertie, that a linck is to a man walking home late: he hopes by that, and good words (tho he be examined) to passe without danger, yet when he comes to the gates, if hee meete with a porter that is an Aile, or with a constable, that loues to lay about him with his staffe of authoritie, more then he needes, then let the partie, that stumbles into these prouinces or puddels of ignorance, bee sure either to bee stricke downe with barbarisme (which cutteth worse then a browne bill) or to be committed and haue the severest censure laide vpon him; let him bee neuer so well and so ciuilly bound vp in faire behauiour: though hee be a man euen printed in the best complements of courtesies; tho he giue neuer so many and so sweet languages, yea and haue all the light of vnderstanding to lead him home; yet those Spirits of the night, will hale him away, and cast him into darkenesse. In the selfe-same scuruey manner doe the world handle poore bookes: when a Reader is intreated to bee curteous, hee growes vnciuil: if you sue to his worship, and giue him the stile of *Candido Lectors*; then hee's proud, and cries mew: If you write merily, he cals you Buffons; seriously, he swears such stuffe cannot be yours. But the best is, that as in *Spain* you shall haue fellowes for a small peece of siluer, take the Strappado, to endure which torture, another man could not be hyrde with a kingdome; so they that haue once or twice lyen vpon the rack of publicke censure, of all other deaths, doe least feare that vpon the Presse, Of that *Wing*

To the Reader.

I hold my selfe one: and therefore (Reader) doe I once more  
stand at the marke of Criticifine (and of thy bolt) to bee  
shot at, I have Armour enough about mee, that war-  
rants mee not to bee fearefull, and yet so well tempe-  
red to my courage, that I will not bee too bolde. Ennie  
(in these ciuill warres,) may hit me, but not hurt mee;  
Calumny may wound my name, but not kill my la-  
bours; proude of which, my care is the lesse, because  
I can as proudly boast with the Poet, that *Non no-*  
*numi hæc opponuntur mori,*

Tho: Dekker.





# A KNIGHTS Coniuring.

## CHAP. I.

*To enlarge Golde, theres a petition writ,  
The Diuell knowes not how to answer it:  
Hee chafes to come in print: In which mad Straine,  
(Roaring) hee headlong runnes to Hell againe.*



None of those mornings of the yere, wherein the Earth breathes out richer pe. fumes then those that prepare the wayes of Princes: by the wholesomnesse of whose *Sens*, the distempered windes (purging their able bodies) ran too and fro, whistling for ioye through the leaues of trees; whilst the Nightingale sat on the branches complaining against lust; the Sparrow cherping on the tops of houses, proude that lust (which he loues) was maintained there: whilst sheepe lay nibbling in the valleys, to teach men humility; and goates climbing vp to the tops of bar-

## A knights

ren mountaines, browzed there vpon weedes and  
barkes of trees, to shew the misery of Ambition:  
Iust at that time when Lambes were wanton as  
yong wiues, but not lasciuious: when shepherds  
had care to feede their flockes, but not to fleece  
them: when the Laike had with his musike calld  
vp the Sun, and the Sun with his light, started vp  
the husband man: then, euen then, when it was  
a morning to tempt *Ioue* to leap from heauen, & to  
goe a wenching; or to make wench's sleau their  
foste beds, to haue greene gownes geuen them in  
the fields. Behold on a sudden the caues where  
the most vnruely and boisterous windes lay impris-  
oned, were violently burst open: they being got  
loose, the waters roard with feare of that insurrec-  
tion, the element shot out thunder in disdayne of  
their threatning: the sturdiest oakes were the glad  
to bow & stand quiuering; onely the haw-thorne  
& the bryer for their humblenes were out of dan-  
ger: So dreadfull a furie lead forth this tempest,  
that had not the *Rainebowe* beene a watermarke to  
the world, Men would haue looked for a second  
*Deluge*: for showres came downe so fast, as if all  
clowdes had bin distild into water, & would haue  
hid their curled heads in the Sea, whilst the waues  
(in 'corne to see themselves so beaten downe)  
boylde vp to such heighth, as if they meant that all  
men should swarm in heauen, and shippes to sayle  
in the Skie. To make these terrors more heauie,  
the *Sun* pulld in his head, and durst not be seene,  
darknes then in triumph, spred her pitchie wings,  
and

## Coniuring.

and lay vpon all the earth : the blacknes of *Night* was doubled vpon high Noone : Beasts (beeing not wont to beholde such sightes,) bellowed and were mad : women ran out of their wits, children into their mothers bosomes : Men were amazed. and held vp their hands to heauen, yet were verilie perswaded that heauen was consumed to nothing, because they could not see it : but to put them out of that error, *Ioue* threwe downe his forked dartes of lightning so thickly, that simple fellows swore there could bee no more fire left in heauen : So that the world shewd as if it had bin halfe drowning, and halfe burning : the waters struing to haue victory ouer the flames, and they sweating as fast to drink drie the waters. To conclude, this Tragedie was so long a playing, & was so dismall, the *Scene* was so turbulent and was so affrighting : This battaile of *Elements*, bred such another *Chaos*, that (not to bee ashamde to borrow the wordes of so rare an *English Spirit*,)

*Did not GOD say*

*Another Fiat, It had n'ere been day.*

The storme beeing at rest, what buying vp of Almanacks was there to see if the weather-calters had playd the Doctors to a haire, & told this terrible disease of *Nature* right or no: but there could be found no such matter : the celestiaall bodiees for any thing Star-catchers knew, were in very good health : the 12. Signes were not beaten downe from any of the houses in heauen : the *Sun* lookt with as cherry cheekes as euer he did : the *Moone*

## A knights

with as plump a face : It could not be found by all the figures which their Prognostications cast vp their accounts by, that any such heavy reckoning was due to the wickednes of the world : whervpon all men stood staring one in anothers face, not knowing how to turne this hard matter into good English. At length, the gun-powder was smelt out, and the trayne discovered. It was knowne for certain, that (tho there was no plate lost) there was coniuring abroad, and therefore that was the dambd diuell in the vault that digd vp all this mischief. But wherabouts think you, was this *Coniuring*? Mary it goes for currant all ouer Powles church-yard (and I hope there comes no lies) that this *Coniuring* was about a *Knight*. It was not (let me tell you) a *Knight* of worship, or a *Knight* that goes by water, or rides by land to *Westminster*; but it was a *Westminster-hall* knight, a swearing knight, or (not to allow him that honor, for hee is no true knight that cannot sweare) this was a knight forsworne, a poore knight, a periurde knight, a *knight of the Post*. This ycoman of both *Counters*, had long agoe bin sent with a letter to the Diuell, but no answer could euer be heard off : soth it some mad fellowes layd their heads together, & swore to fetch him from Hell with a vengeance, and for that cause kept they this *Coniuring*.

The occasion of sending the letter grew thus : the temple of the *Muses* (for want of looking to) falling to decay, & many (that seemd to hate *Barbarisme* and *Ignorance*) being desirous to set workmen

## Coniuring.

men about it, and to repaire it, but hauing other buildings of their owne in hand, vtterly gaue it ouer. A *Common Councell* was therefore call'd of all those that liu'de by their witts, and such as were of the *liuery of Learning*, amongst whom, it was found necessarie, (sithence those that had money enough were loath to part from it,) that to ease the private purse, a *generall subsidy* as it were, should be leuyed through all the Worlde, for the raising of such a competent *Summe* as might maintaine the saide *Almes-honse* of the *Nine Sisters*, in good fashion, and keepe it from falling. The collectors of this money, labourde till they swette, but the *Haruest* would not come in, nothing could bee gathered. Gentlemen swore by their blood, & by the tombs of their ancestors, they would not lay out a peny: they had nothing to doe (they said) with the *Muses*, they were meere strangers to them, and why should they be assessed to paye any thing towards the reliefe of such lazy companions? there was no wit in it. A number of Noble men were of the same opinion. As for Lawyers, they knew there was no Statute in anie Kings time, could compell them to disburse; & besides they were euery day purchasing theselues, so that it were folly to looke for any money from them. Soldiers swore by their Armes (which were most lamentable out at elbowes) that they would be glad of money to buy prouant: *Peace* they said, had made them begger, and suffered them almost to starue in her streetes; yet some of them went vpon lame wodden legs,



## A knights

because their Country might goe sound and vp-  
right vpon their own: they (poore wretches) wan-  
ted Action, and yet had a number of Actions a-  
gainst them, yea & were ebbd so lowe, that Cap-  
tens gaue ouer their charges, & were lead by *Ser-  
uants*, no siluer therefore could be coynde out of  
them. Schollers could haue found in their hearts  
to haue made mony of their bookes, gownes, cor-  
ner caps, & bedding, to haue payde their share to-  
wards this worke of *Charitie*, but men held all that  
was theirs (howe good soeuer,) in such vile con-  
tēpt, that not euen those who vpon a good pawne  
will lend money to the Diuell, (I meane *Brokers*)  
would to them part with any coyne, vpon any In-  
terest, so much did they hate the poore wenchcs  
and their followers.

This matter beeing openly complainde vpon,  
at the Parliament of the Gods, It was there pre-  
sently enacted, that *Apollo* (out of whose brayne  
*Wisemen* come into the world) shuld with all speed  
descend, and preuent this mischiefe: least *Sacred  
Knowledge*, hauing her *Intellectuall soule* banished  
from the earth, hauing no house to dwell in there,  
the earth should (as of necessity it would) turne in-  
to the first *Chaos*, and *Men* into *Gyants*, to fight a-  
gainc with the Gods. *Mercury* likewise, for the  
same purpose, was forthwith sent from the whole  
*Synode*, as Embassadour to *Plutus* (who is mony-  
master of those *Lowc Countreyes of Lynbo*) to per-  
swade him by all the eloquence that *Hermes* could  
vie, that *Gold* might be suffred to haue a litle more  
liberty:



## Coniuring.

liberty : And that schollers for want of his sweete and royall company, might not be driuen to walk in thred-bare cloakes, to the dishonor of *Learning*; nor goe all their life time with a lanthorne & candle to find the *Philosophers stone* (out of which they are able if they could hit it, to strike such sparks of gold, that all the world should be the warmer for it, nay to begger the Iudges) yet in the end to die arrant beggers themselves. For you must vnderstand, that tho the *Muses* are held of no reckoning here vpon earth, but are set below the *Salt*, when *Ases* sit at the vpper end of the table, yet are they borne of a heauenlie race, and are most welcome guests euen to the banquets of the Gods.

The *diuine Singer* (*Apollo*) according to the *Decree* of the *Caelestiall vpper House*, is now alieue come vpon earth : the *fountaines of Science* flowe (by his influence) & swell to the brim : *Baye* trees to make garlandes for *Learning*, are newe set, and alreadie are greene, the *Muses* haue fresh cullours in their cheekes ; their *Temple* is promised to be made more faire: there is good hope that *Ignorance* shall no longer weare Sattin. But for all this, *Mercury* with all his *Coniuring*, cannot raise vp the yellowe spirit of *Gold* out of *Hell*, so perfectly as was expected : he puts vp his bright & amiable face about ground, and shrinks it downe againe, ere one can catch him by the lockes. Which mockery the world taking note of, a mad *Greeke* that had drunk of the *Holy water*, and was full of the *Diuine Furie*, taking a deep bowle of the *Helliconian liquor* in his hands,

## A knights

hands, did in a brauery write a Supplication in the behalfe of *Gold* for his enlargement, vowing that hee would spend all his bloud into ynecke, and his braines to cotton, but he would haue an answer, and not according to the manner of Suiters, bee borne off with delayes.

The petition being ingrossed, he thought none could run faster to hell, nor be sooner let in there, then either a *Pander*, a *Broker*, or a *knight of the Post*, had made choise therefore of the last because of his name, & sent it by him, who belike hauing much to doe with the Diuell, could not of a long time be heard of, and for that cause was all that *Coniuring*, which I spoke of before.

Wherevpon (entring into consideration, what shifts and shapes men run into, what basenes they put on, through what dangers they venture, hold much of their fames, their conscience, their liues, yea of their houses, they will laye out to purchase that piece of Heauenly earth (*Golde*,) the strange *Magick* of it draue me straight into a strange admiration. I perceiue it to be a witch-craft beyond mans power to contend with: a Torrent whose winding creekes were not with safety to be searcht out: a poyson that had a thousand contrarie workings on a thousand bodies: for it turnes those that keepe it prisoner in chests, into Slaues, and Idolaters, they make it their god and worship it: and yet even those that become such Slaues vnto it, doth it make soueraine commanders over a world of people: some for the loue of it would  
pluck

## Coniuring.

pluck downe heauen, others to ouertake it, runne quick to hell. But (alas) if a good head hammer out these Irons with skill, they are not so hard: It is not so monstrous a birch to see *Gols* create men so deformed: for this strompet the world hath tricks as wanton as these: he that euery night lyes by the sides of one fairer then *Vulcans* wife, hath been taken the next morning in the Sheetes of a Blackamore: Nay euen in those currants that run fullest of *Ceremony*, theres a flowing ouer of *Apishnes* and folly: for (like *Riders* of great horses) all our *Courses* are but *Figures of 8*: the end of one giddie Circle, is but a falling into a worse, & that to which on this day we allow a *religious obseruance*, to morrowe doe we make the selte-same thing *ridiculous*, For you see at the end of *great Battailles* wee fall to burie the dead, and at the end of *Burialls*, wee sit downe to *Banquets*: when banquets haue beene playd about, *Drinking* is the next weapon; from the fire of drinking, flames out *Quarrells*; Quarrell breakes forth into *Fighting*, and the streame of *Fighting* runneth into *Bloud*.

This *Forrest* of *Man* and *beast* (the *World*) being then so wilde, and the most perfect Circles of it, drawne so irregualler awry: It can be no great lawcines in me, if snatching the Constables staffe out of his hand, I take vpon mee to make a busie priuy search in the *Suburbs of Sathan*, for the *supplication-caryer*, and to publish the answer to the *world*, that should come with him. Into the which *troublesome sea*, I am the more desperatly bold to lanch  
C forth,

## A knights

forth, & to hoyst vp the full sailes of my inuention, because (as *Rumor* goes gossiping vp and downe) great wagers were laide in the worlde, &c : that when the *supplication* was sent, it would not be receiued, or if receiued, it would not be read ouer : or if read ouer, it would not be answered: for *Mammon* beeing the god of no beggers, but *Burgemaisters* & rich *Cormorants*, was worse thought of then he deserued: Euery man that did but passe through *Pauls church-yard*, & had but a glance at the title of the petition, would haue betted ten to fiue, that the *Diuell* would hardly, (like a Lawyer in a busy Terme) be spoken with, because his Client had not a penny to pay Fees, but sued in *Forma pauperis*.

*The Diuell  
the best fencer,  
& very  
apt to quarrel.*

Had it bene a Challenge, it is cleare, he would haue answered it : for hee was the first that kept a Fence schoole, when *Cayn* was aliue, and taught him that *Embrocado*, by which he kild his brother: Since which time, he hath made *ten thousand Free-schollers as cunning as Cayn*. At sword and buckler, lirtle *Dany* was no body to him, and as for Rapier & Dagger, the *Germane* may be his iourneyman. Mary the question is, in which of the *Playhouses* he would haue performed his Prize, if it had growne to blowes, & whether the money being gathered, hee would haue cozende the Fencers, or the Fencers him, because *Hell* beeing vnder euerie one of their *Stages*, the Players (if they had owed him a spight) might with a false trap-dore haue slipt him down, & there haue kept him as a laughing-stock

## Coniuring.

to all their yawning Spectators. Or had his *Infernalship* ben arrested to any action how great so euer, all the Lawe in *Weſtminſter hall* could not haue kept him from appearing to it (for the *Diuell* ſcornes to be nonſuited) he would haue answered *He can ſee that too*: But the miſchiefe would haue beene, *none to picad where ſhould hee haue got anie that would haue for him.* pleaded for him? who could haue endured to ſee ſuch a dānable *Chians* euey morning in his chamber? what waterman (for double his fare) would haue landed him at the *Temple*, but rather haue *He keepes no Waterman.* ſtrucke in at *White-Fryers*, & left him there a ſhore with a Poxe to him? Tuſh: there was no ſuch matter, the ſtreame hee was to enter into, was not ſo daungerous, this *Coyner of Lights Angels* knewe well enough how the *Exchange* went, he had but bare words lent vnto him, and to pay bare wordes againe (though with ſome Intereſt) it could be no loſſe.

He reſolued therefore to aunſwere his humble *Orator*: But being himſelfe nor brought vp to learning (for the *Diuell* can neither write nor reade) yet he has ben at all the *Vniuerſities* in *Chriſtendom*, & throwne dānable *Hereties* (like bones for dogges to gnaw vpon, amongſt the *Doctours* themſelues:) but hauing no ſkill but in his owne *Horne booke*, it troubled his mind where he ſhould get a pen-man *Scriueners are ſo full of* fit for his tooth to ſcribble for him, all the *Scriueners* i<sup>t</sup>h towne he had at his becke, but they were *buſines, & be* ſo ſet a worke with making bonds betweene *Vniuers* and *Vnibriſty* heyres, between *Marchants* and *middle with*

## A knights

*Trades-men*, (that to couzen and vndoe others, turne Bank-rowtes themselues, and defeate Creditious) and with drawing close conueyances betweene *Land-lordes* and *Bawdes*, that nowe sit no longer vpon the Skyrtes of the Cittie, but iette vp vp and downe, euen in the cloake of the Cittie, and giue more rent for a house, then the proudelt *London* occupyer of them all, that *Don Lucifer* was loath to take them from their *Nouerints*, because in the ende he knewe they were but his Factors, and that he should be a part-owner in their lading, himselfe; *Lawiers* clarks were so durtied vp to the hammes, with trudging vp & downe to get pelfe, & with fishing for gudgeons, and so wrung poore ignorant Clyents purses, with exacting vnreasonable Fees, that the *Paye-maister* of *Perdition* would by no meanes take them from their wide lines, and bursten-bellyed straggling ffs, but stroking them vnder the chinnes, calld them his white boyes, and tolde them he would empty the ynkepot of some others.

Whether then marches *Monsieur Malefico*? Mary to all the wryting Schoole-maisters of the towne, he tooke them by the fists, and lik'de their handes exceedingly (for some of them had ten or twelue seuerall hands, and could counterfeit any thing, but perceiuing by the copies of their countenances, that for all their good letters, they writ abominable bad English, & that the world would thinke the Diuell a Dunce, if there came false *Orthographie* from him (though there be no truth in his

## Coniuring.

his budget) away hee gallops from those tell-tales (the Schoolmaisters) damning himse'fe to the pit of Hell, if any scribbling petition wryter, should euer get a good word at his hands.

I hearing this, and fearing that the poore Suppliant should loose his longing, and be sent away with *Similattukris*, resolved to doe that for nothing, which a number would not for any mony.

I sell to my tooles, (pen, ink, and paper) round lie, but the *Head ward n* of the *Horners* (*Signior Becco Dianolo*) after hee had cast vp what lay in his stomack, suspecting that I came rather as a spie to betraye him, then as a spirit to runne of his errands, and that I was more likely to haue him to Barber Surgeons hall, there to Anatomize him, then to a Barbers shop to trimme him neatly, would by no meanes haue the answer go forward: Notwithstanding, hauing examined him vpon Interrogatories, and thereby sifting him to the very bran, I swore by *Hellicon*, (which hee could neuer abide) that beca' e tis out of fashion to bring a Diuell vpon the Stage, he should (spite of his spitting fire and Brimstone,) be a Diuell in print. Inraged at which, hee flung away in a furie, and leapt into *Barathrum*, whil'st I mustred all my wits about mee, to fight against this Captaine of the *darned Crewe*, and discouer his *Stratagems*.



# A knights

## CHAP. II.

*Don Lucifers acquaintance soone is got,  
At London or at Westminster : where not ?  
Hells Map is drawne, In which it does appeare,  
Where Hell does lye, and who they are, lue there.*



Under is the daughter of Ignorance, none but fooles will maruell, how I and this *Grand Sophy of the whore of Babilon* came to be so familiar together, or how we met, or howe I knewe where to find him, or what *Charmes* I carried about mee whil'st I talkt with him, or where (if one had occasion to vile his *Diuellish* p) a Porter might fetch him with a wet finger.

*The Diuells  
Rendezvous.*

Tush, these are silly inquisitions; his acquaintance is more cheape, then a common Fiddlers this lodging is more knowne then an English bawdes, a midwiues, or a phisitions; and his walkes more open to all Nations, the thes vp on the *Exchange*, where at euery step a man is put in mind of *Babell*, there is such a confusion of languages. For in the Terme time, my *Causidiero Cornuto* runs sweating vp & downe between *Temple barre* & *Westminster hall*, in the habite of a knight Errant, a swearing knight, or a knight of the Poste: All the Vacation you may either meet him at the *Dyging Ordinaries*, like a Capraine, at *Eockpits*, like a young countrey Gen.



## Coniuring.

Gentleman or else at *Bowling-Alleys* in a flat cap:  
like a shopkeeper: euery market day you may take  
him in *Cheape side*, poorely attyrd like an *Ingroſſer*,  
and in the afternoones, in the two peny. roomes  
of a *Play-houſe*, like a *Puny*, ſcated Check by Iowle  
with a *Punke*: In the heate of Sommer hee com-  
monlie turnes *Intelligencer*, and carries tales be-  
tweene the *Arch-Duke* and the *Grane*: In the depth  
of Winter, hee ſits tipling with the *Flemmings* in  
their townes of *Garrilon*.

Hauing therefore (as Chamber-maides uſe to  
doe for their Ladies faces ouer night) make ready  
my cullors, the *pencell* being in my hand, my *Carde*  
lined, my *Needle* (that capers ouer two and thirty  
pointes of the *Compaſſ*) toucht to the quicke,  *Eaſt*,  
 *Weſt*, *North*, and *Sout*, the foure Trumpetters of  
the *World*, that neuer blowe themſelues out of  
breath, like foure dropſie *Dutch Captaines* ſtanding  
*Cent-nells* in their quarters, I will ingenuouſly and  
boldely giue you the Map of a country, that lyes  
lower then the 17. valleys of *Belgia*, yea lower then  
the Cole-pits of *Neue caſtle*, is farre more darke,  
farre more dreadfull, and fuller of knauerie, then  
the Colliers of thoſe fire-workes are.

The name of this ſtraunge Countrey is *Hell*, *Description*  
In diſouery of which, the *Quality* of the kingdom, *of Hell*.  
the condition of the Prince, the eſtate of the peo-  
ple, the Traffique thither, (marie no transporting  
of goods from thence) ſhall be painted to the life.  
It is an *Empire*, that lyes vnder the *Torrida Zone*, and  
by that meanes is hotter at Christmas, then t'is in

## A knights

*Spaine* or *France* (which are counted plaguy hotte Countreys) at Midsummer, or in *England* when the Dogge-daies bite forest: for to saie truth (because t'is sinne to belye the Diuill) the *Vniuersall Region* is built altogether vpon *Stones* and *Hottel-houses*, you cannot set foote into it, but you haue a *Fieri facias* seru'de vpon you: for like the Glasse-houle *Furnace* in Blacke-friers, the bone-fires that are kept there, neuer goe out, insomuch that all the Inhabitants are almost breyld like *Carbonadoes* with the sweating sicknes, but the best is, (or rather the worst) none of them die on't.

And such dangerous hot shottes are all the women there, that whofoeuer meddles with anie of them is sure to be burnt: It stands farther off then the *Indies*: yet to see the wonderfull power of *Examination*, if you haue but a *side-winde*, you may saile sooner thither, than a married man can vpon *St. Lukes* day to Cuckolds haue, from *St. Katherins*, which vpon sound experience, and by the opinion of many good Mariners, may be done in lesse than halfe an hower. If you trauele by land to it, the wayes are delicate, euen, spacious, and very faire, but toward the end, very fowle: the pathies are beaten more bare then the liuings of Churchmen. You neuer turne, when you are traueilling thither, but keepe altogether on the left hand, so that you cannot lose yourselfe, vnlesse you desperately doe it of purpose.

The miles are not halfe so long as those betwene *Colchester* & *Ipswich* in *England*, nor a quarter

## Coniuring.

ter so dirty in the wrath of *Winter*, as your French miles are at the fall of the leafe.

Some say, it is an *Iland*, embrac'de about with certaine *Riuers*, called the waters of Sortowe: Others proue by infallible Demonstration, that t'is a *Continent*, but so little beholding to Heauen, that the Sunne neuer comes amongst them.

Howe so euer it be, this is certaine, that t'is ex- *What Per-*  
ceeding rich, for all *Vsurers* both Iewes and Chri- *stians are there*  
stians, after they haue made away their Soules for money here, meete with them there againe: You haue of all Trades, of all Professions, of all States some there: you haue Popes there, as well as here: Lords there, as well as here: Knights there, as well as here: Aldermen there, as well as here: Ladies there, as well as here: Lawyers there, as well as here: Souldiers marche there by myllions, so doe Citizens, so doe Farmers, very fewe Poets can be suffered to liue there, the *Colonell of Coniurers* dryues them out of his Circle, because hee feares they'll wryte Libells against him: yet some pittisfull fellows (that haue faces like fire-drakes, but wittes colde as whetstones, and more blunt) not Poets indeed, but ballad makers, rub out there, & write Infernalls: Marrie players (swarme there as they doe heere, whose occupation beeing smelt out, by the *Cacodemon*, or head Officer of the Countrey, to be lucratiue, hee purposes to make vp a companie, and to be chiefe sharer himselte, *De quibus suo loco*, of whose doings you shall heare more by the next Carrier: but heeres the mischief, you may

D

finde

## A knights

finde the waye thither, though you were blinder then *Superstition*, you may be set ashore there, for lesse then a Scullers fare: Any Vinteners boye, that has beene cup-bearer to one of the 7. deadly finnes but halfe his yeeres, any Marchant of maiden-heads, that brings commodities out of *Virginia*, can direct you thither: But neither they, nor the weather-beatenst *Cosmographicall* Starre-catcher of em all, can take his oath, that it lyes iust vnder such an *Horizon*, whereby manie are brought into a Fooles *Paradise*, by gladlie beleeuing that either ther's no such place at all, or els that t'is built by Inchauntment, and stands vpon *Fayrie ground*, by reason such pinching and nipping is known to be there, and that how well-sauoured soeuer wee departe hence, we are turn'd to *Changelings*, if we tarry there but a minute.

These *Territories*, notwithstanding of *Tartarie*, will I vndermine and blowe vp to the viewe of all eyes, the blacke and dismall shores of this *Phlegmatonicke Ocean*, shalbe in ken, as plainly as the white (now vnmaidend breasts of our own Iland) *China*, *Pern*, and *Cartagena*, were neuer so riss'd: the winnings of *Cales*, was nothing to the winning of this *Troy* that's all on fire: the very bowels of these Infernall *Antipodes*, shalbe ript vp, and pull'd out, before that great Dego of Diuells his owne face: Nay, since my flag of defiance is hung forth, I will yeelde to no truce, but with such *Tamburlaine-like* furie, march against this great *Turke*, and his legions, that *Don Beelzebub* shall be ready to damme him.

## Coniuring.

himselfe, and be home-mad : for with the coniuring of my pen, all Hell shall breake loose.

Assist mee therefore, thou *Genius* of that venturous, but ieaious *Musicon* of *Thrace* (*Enridices* husband,) who beeing befotted on his wife, (of which sin none but Cuckoldes should be guiltie) went aliue (with his Fiddle at's backe) to see if hee could baile her out of that *Adamantine* prison; the fees he was to pay for her, were ligs and countrey daunces : he paid them: the forfeits, if he put on yellow Stockings, & look't back vpon her, was her euerlasting lying there, without bayle or Mayneprize: the louing Coxcomb could not choofe but looke backe, and so lost her, (perhaps hee did it, because he would be-rid of her.) The Morall of which is, that if a man leaue his owne busines, and haue an eye to his wiues dooings, shee'll giue him the slip, though she runne to the Diuell for her labour. Such a iourney (twext *Orpheus*) am I to vndertake, but *Ioue* forbid my occasion shuld be like thine, for if the Marshall himselfe should rake Hell for wenches, he could not finde worse, (no nor so bad) there, as are heere vpon earth. It were pitie that any woman should be damn'd, for she would haue trickes (once in a moone,) to put the Diue'l out of his wits. Thou (most cleare throated singlingman,) with thy Harpe, (to the twinckling of which, inferior Spirits skip like Goates ouer the *Welsh* mountaines) hadst priuiledge, because thou wert a Fiddler to be sawcy, & to passe and repasse through euery roome and into euery nook or the

## A knights

Diuels wine-celler : Inspire mee therefore with thy cunning that carryed thee thither , and thy courage that brought thee from thence , teache mee which way thou went'st in , and howe thou scapt'st out, guide me in true fingering, that I may strike those tunes which thou plaid'st, (euery dinner and supper) before that Emperor of *Low Germanie*, and the brabbling *States* vnder him : *Lucifer* himselfe danced a *Lancashire Horne-pipe*, whilst thou wert there. If I can but Harpe vpon thy string, he shall now for my pleasure tickle vp the *Spanish Pauin*. I will call vpon no Midwiues to help me in those Throws, which (after my braines are fallen in labour) I must suffer, (yet Midwiues may be had vp at all howers,) nor vpon any coniuier, (yet Coniurers thou know'st, are fellowe and fellow-like, with *Monsieur Malediction*, as Puncks are, who raise him likewise vp continually in their *Circean Circles*) or as Brokers are, who both day and night studie the blacke Arte : No, no, (thou *Mr*: of thy Muscicall companie,) I sue to none, (but to thee, because of thy Prick-song:) For Poetrie (like Honestie and olde Souldiers) goes vpon lame feete, vnlesse there be musicke in her.

But the best is, *Facilis descensus Auernei*, It's but slipping downe a hill, and you shall fall into the Diuels lappe presently. And that's the reason, (because *his Sinfulness* is so double diligent, as to bee at your elbowe with a call, wherein he giues  
good

## Coniuring.

good examples to Drawers, if they had grace to followe his steppes) that you swallow downe that Newes first, which should be eaten last: For you see at the beginning, the Diuell is ready to open his mouth for an Answer, before his howre is come to be set to the Barre.

Since therefore, a Tale of the whole voyage would make any liquorish mouth'd News-monger like his lippes after it, no mans teeth shall water any longer, hee shall haue it; for a very briefe Cronicle shall be gathered, of all the memorable occurrents, that presented themselues to the view of our wandring Knight in his iorney, the second part of *Erra Paters Almanack*, whose shooes *Platoes* Cap was not worthie to wipe, shall come forth, and without lying, (as you Calendermongers vse to doe,) tell what weather wee had all the way he went, to a drop of raine: wee will not loose him from the first minute of his iumping a ship-board, to the last of his leaping a shore, and arriuall at *Tamor Cham* Court (his good Lord and Maister) the Diuell.





# A knights

## CHAP. III.

*Hells Post through London rydes : by a mad crewe,  
Hees call'd into a Tauerne : In which view  
They drinke and raile : each of them by the Post  
Sends a strange message to his Fathers Ghost.*



He Post therfore, hauing put vp his packer, blowes his horne, & gallops all the way like a *Citizen*, so soone as euer hee's on horse back, downe to Billingsgate, for he meant when the Tide seru'de to angle for Soules, and some other fresh fish in that goodly *fish-pond* the *Thames*, as he passed ouer it, in *Granesend barge* : that was the water-coach he would ride in, there he knewe he should meet with some voluntaries that would venture along with him : In this passage through the City, what a number of Lord Mayors, Aldermens, and rich Commoners sonnes & heires kept hollowing out at Tauern windows to our knight, and wasted him to their Gascoigne shores, with their hats only (for they had molten away all their feathers) to haue him strike sayle, and come vp to them : he vaild, and did so: their phantastick salutations being complemented, with much intreatie (because hee stood vppon thornes) hee was aduanc'd (in regard of his Knighthood) to the vpper end of the board: you must take out your writing



## Coniuring.

ting tables, and note by the way, that euery roome of the house was a Cage full of such wilde fowle, *Et crimine ab uno disce omnes*, cut vp one, cut vp all, they were birdes all of a beake, not a Woodcocks difference among twenty douzen of them; euery man had before him a bale of dice, by his side a brace of Punks, & in his fist a nest of bowls. It was spring-tide sure, for all were full to the brimmes, with French beeing turn'd into English, (for they swum vp and downe the Riuer of Burdeaux signified thus much, that dycing, drinking, and drabbing, (like the three seditious *Iewes* in *Ierusalem*,) were the ciuil plagues that very vnciuilly destroyed the Sonnes (but not the sinnes) of the Cittie.

The blood of the grape comming vp into their cheeks, it was hard to iudge, whether they blushed to see themselves in such a pickle, or lookt red with anger one at another: but the troth is, their faces would take any dye but a blush-colour, and they were not made of the right mettle of courage to be angry, but their wits (like wheelles in *Brunswick* clocks) being all wound vp, so faire as they could stretch, were all going, but not one going truly.

For some curst their byrth, some their bringing vp, some rayled vpon their owne Nation, others vpon Strangers. At the last, one of these *Acolasti*, playing at doublets with his pue-fellowe, (which they might well doe, being almost driven to their shyrtes,) and hearing vpon what Theame the rest sung *Ex tempore*, out-draws his ponyard, and stabbing the tables, as if he meant to haue murder'd  
the

## A knights

the thirty men, swore he could find in his heart to goe presently (hauing drunk vpsy Dutch,) & pisse cuen vppon the Curmudgion his Fathers graue : for, sayes hee; no man has more vndone me, than hee that has done most for me, ile stand too't, it's better to be the sonne of a Cobler, then of a common councell man : if a Coblers sonne and heyre run out at heeles, the whorson patch may mend himselfe; but wee, whose friendes leaue vs well, are like howre-glasses turn'de vp, though wee be neuer so full, wee neuer leaue running, till wee haue emptied our selues, to make vp the mouthes of slaues, that for gayne are content to lye vnder vs, like Spaniels, tawning, and receiue what falls from our superfluity. Who breeds this disease, in our bones? Whores? No, alack let's doe them right, t'is not their fault, but our mothers, our cockering mothers, who for their labour make vs to be calld Cockneys, or to hit it home indeed, those golden Asses our Fathers.

*Wise mothers make  
foolish children.*

It is the olde Man, it is *Adam*, that layes a curse vppon his Posteritie : As for my Dad, t'is well knowne, hee had hippes reeling at Sea, (the vnlading of which giues me my load now, and makes me stagger on land,) hee had ploughes to tear vp dere yerres out of the guts of the earth i'th countrey, and Yeomens sonnes, North countrey-men, fellowes (that might haue beene Yeomen of the Guard for feeding) great boyes with beards, whom he tooke to be Prentizes, (many neuer any of them had the grace to be free,) and those lads  
(like

## Coniuring.

like Sarricants ) tore out mens throates for him to get money in the Citie: hee was richer then *Midas*, but more wretched then an Alchumist: so covetous that in gardning time, because hee would not be at the cost of a load of Earth, hee par'de not his nailes for seuen yeeres together, to the intent the durte that hee filch't vnder them, should serue for that purpose: So that they hung ouer his Fingers, like so many shooing-hornes: doe but imagine how farre euer any man ventred into bell for money, and my Father went a foote farder by the standard, and why did he this, thinke you? he was so sparing, that hee would not spend so much time as went to the making vp of another childe, so that all was for mee, he cozen'd young Gentlemen of their Land, onely for mee, had acres mortgag'd to him by wife-acres, for 1. hundred pounds, payde in hobby-horses, dogges, bells, and lute-strings, which if they had bene sold by the drum, or at an ouer-rop, with the crye, of No man better? would neuer haue yeelded 50. li. and this hee did onely for mee, he built a Pharos, or rather a Block-house beyond the gallows at Wapping, to which the blacke flecte of Cole-carriers that came from *Newcastle*, strooke saile, were brought a bed, and discharg'de their great bellies there, like whores in hugger-mugger, at the common price, with twelue pence in a chauldern ouer & aboue, thereby to make the common wealth blowe her nayles till they ak'de for colde, vnlesse she gaue money to sit by his fire, onely for mee: the poore curst him

E

with

## A knights

*Miserable  
fathers make  
wretched  
sennes.*

with bell, booke and candle, till he lookt blacker with their execration, the if he had bin blasted, but he car'de not what dogges bark't at him, so long as they bit not me: his house-keeping was worse then an *Irish Kernes*, a Rat could not comit a Rape vpon the paring of a moldy cheefe, but he died for't, onely for my sake, the leane Iade *Hungarian* would not lay out a penny pot of sack for himselte, though he had eaten stincking fresh herring able to poyson a dog, onely for me, because his son & heire should drink egges and muskadine, when he lay rotting.

To conclude, hee made no conscience, to run quick to the Diuel of an errand, so I had sent him. Might not my father haue beene begg'd (thinke you) better the a number of scurvy things that are begd? I am perswaded, fooles would be a rich *Manopolie*, if a wise man had em in hand: would they had begunne with him, Ile be sworne, he was a fat one: for had he hid my pockets with siluer, and the least corner of my coxcomb with wit how to saue that siluer, I might haue beene cald vpon by this, whereas now I am ready to giue vp my cloake: Had he set me to *Green-schoole*, as I set my selfe to dancing schoole, instead of treading *Carantoies*, & making Fidlers fat with rumps of capôs, I had by this time read *Homilies*, and fed vpon Tith-pigs of my owne vicaridge, whereas now, I am ready to get into the *Prodigals* seruice, and eat lones nuts, that's to say, Acorns with swine: But men that are wisest for officers, are commonly arrand woodcocks, for Fathers: He that prouides liuing for his child, and  
robs

## Coniuring.

robs him of learning, turnes him into a Beetle, that flies from perfumes and sweet Odours, to feed on a cow-sheard; all such rich mē's darlings are either christened by some left-handed Priest, or els born vnder a threepeny Planet, and then they'le neuer be worth a groat, though they were left Landlords of the *Indies*. I confesse, when all my golden veines were shrunk vp, & the bottome of my Patrimony came within 200. pound of vnraueling, I could for all that haue bin dub'd: But when I saw how mine vnkle plaid at chesse, I had no stomach to be knighted. Why, sayes the Post? Mary quoth he, because when I prepar'd to fight a battaile on the Chesse-board, a Knight was alwaies better then a Pawne: but the Vsurer mine vnkle made it playne, that a good paw ne nowe was better then a Knight.

At this the whole *Chorus*, *summas monere Cachin-*  
*nos*, laught till they grind agen, and call'd for a fresh gallon, all of the m falling on their knees, & drawing out siluer & guilt rapiers, the onely monumēt's that were left of hundreds & thousands in *Pecunijs numeratis*, swore they would drinke vp these in deepe Healthes, to their howling Fathers, so they might be sure the pledging should choake them, because they brought them into the Inne of the World, but left them not enough to pay their ryotous reckonings, at their going out.

The knight was glad he should carry such welcome newes with him, as these, to the clouen-footed Synagogue, & tickled with immoderate ioye, to see the world runne vpon such rotten wheelcs.

## A knights

Whervp<sup>6</sup> pleading the necessity of his departure, he began first to run ouer his *Alphabet of Congees*, & thē with a *French Basilez*, slipt out of their cōpany.

But they knowing to what cape he was bound, hūg vpon him, like to many beggers on an Almoner, importing, and cōniuring him, by the loue he did owe to Knight-hood, and Armes, and by his oath, to take vp down-cast Ladies, whom they had there in their companies, and whom they were bound in Nature & humanity, to relieue: that hee wold signity to their fathers show course the *threed of life* fell out to be nowe towards the *Fagge ende*: therfore, if any of them had (inth' daies of his abomination, and idolatry to money) bound the spirit of gold, by any *charmes*, in *Cauces*, or in iron letters vnder the grouūd, they should for their own soules quiet, (which questionlesse els would whine vp & down) if not for the good of their childrē, release it, to set vp their decay'd estates. Or if ther had bin no such *coniuuring* in their life times, that they wold take vp money of the *Diuel* (thogh they forfeited their bondes, and lay by it for euer, or els get leaue with a *keeper*, to trie how much they might be trusted for among their olde customers vppon earth, thogh within two dayes after, they proued Bankrupts by Proclamation. The *Poll-maister* of Hell plainly told them, that if any so seditious a fellow as *Golde*, were cast in prison: their fathers wold neuer giue their consent to haue him ransom'd: because ther's more greedines among them *below*, then can be in the *Hyeland-countrys* aboue: so that



## Coniuring.

if all the Lordships in *Europ* were offred in Mortgage for a quarter their value, not so much as 13. pence half penie can be had from thence, though a man would hang himselfe for it: And as for their Fathers walking abroad with *keepers*, alas they lye there vpon such heavy Executions, that they cannot get out for their soules. Hee counsellis them therefore to draw arrowes out of another quier, for that those markes stand out of their reache, the grouid of which counsell, they all vow to trauesse: Some of them resolving to cast out liquorish baits, to catch old (but fleshy) wealthy widdowes, the fire of which Sophysticated loue, they make account shal not go out, so long as any drops of gold can be distill'd from them: Others sweare to liue and dye in a man of *Warre*, though such kinde of Theeuerie be more stale then *Seabeefe*: the rest that haue not the hearts to shead bloud, hauing reasonable stockes of wit, meanes to imploy em in the finnes of the Suburbs, though the Poxe lyes there as deaths Legyer: For since Man is the clocke of Time, they leall be Tymes Sextens, and set the Dyall to what howres they list.

Our Vaunt'currer applauded the lots which they drew for themselves, and offred to pay some of the *Tauern Items*: but they protesting he should not spend a Baw-bee, as hee was true knight *confedere Duces*, they fate downe to their Wine, and he hastied to the water.

# A knights

## CHAP. IIIL.

*Hells Port lands at Graues-end: see's Dunkirk, France,  
And Spayne: then vp to Venice does aduance:  
At last bee comes to the Banck-side of Hell:  
Of Charon and his boate, strange newes doth tell.*



Y this time is he laded at *Graues-end*, (for they whom the Diuell diuies, feele no Lead at their heeles,) what stufte came along with him in the Barge, was so base in the weauing, that 'tis too bad to be set out to sale: It was onely Luggage, therefore throwe it ouerboard. From thence hoysting vp saile into the Maine, he struck in among the *Dunkirks*, where hee encountered such a number of all Nations, with the dregs of all Kingdomes, vices dropping vpon them, and so like the *Blacke-Gentleman* his *Maister*, that hee had almost thought himselfe at home, so neere do those that lye in *Garrison* there, resemble the *Desperatores* that fill vp *Plutoes Muster-booke*: But his head beating on a thousand Anvils, the scolding of the *Cannon* drew him speedily fro thence: So that creeping vp along by the *ranks Flemmish shores* (like an *Euel dropper*) to whisper out what the brabbling was, he onely set downe a note for his memorie, that the States sucking Poyson out of the sweete flowers of Peace, but keeping their coffers



## Coniuring.

coffers sound and healthfull by the bitter Pills of Warre, made their coun'rey a pointing stocke to other Nations, and a miserable *Anatomic* to themselves.

The next place he call'd in at, was *France*, where the Gentlemen, to make Apes of Englishmen, whom they tooke daylie practising all the foolish tricks of fashions after their *Monsieur-ships*, with yards in steede of Leading Staues, mustred all the French Taylors together, who, by reason they had thin haire, wore thimbles on their heads, in stead of *Hennins* caps, every man being armed with his sheeres and pressing Iron, which he call's there his goose (many of them beeing in *France*: All the crosse-caperers shewing plac'd in strong rankes, and an excellent oration cut out and stitch't together, perswading them to sweat out their braines, in deuising new cuts, new french collers, new french cod-peeces, and newe french panes in honour of *Saint Denrys*, only to make the gyddi-pated Englishman consume his reuenewes, in wearing the like cloathes, which on *his* backe at the least, can shew but like cast futes, beeing the second edition, whilst the poore French peasant iets vp & down, (like a Pantaloun) in the olde theed-bare cloake of the Englishman, so that we buy fashions of them to feather our pride, and they borrowe rags from vs to couer their beggery. The Spanyard was so busy in touching heauen with a launce, that our Knight of the burning shield, could not get him at so much leysure, as to eat a dish of Pilchers with him.

*Fashions borne in France, and sent to be nurs'd in England.*

*Pryde the Spanyards ballard, keeps here.*

## A knights

*Lustbe Ita-  
lians mistru,  
is now comen  
with the En-  
glishman.*

him. The gulfe of *Venice* hee purposes shall there-  
fore swallowe a fewe howres of his obseruation,  
where hee no sooner sets footing on shore, but he  
encounters with *Lust*, so ciuilly suted, as if it had  
bene a Marchants wife: Whore-mongers there,  
may vtter their commodities as lawfullie as Cos-  
termongers here, they are a company as free, and  
haue as large priuiledges for what they doe, as any  
of the twelue Companyes in London. In other  
Countreys Lecherie is but a Chamber-mayde:  
Here, a great Lady: Shee's a retaylor, and has war-  
rant to sell foules, and other small wares, vnder the  
Seale of the Cittie: Damnation has a price set  
vpon it, and dares goe to Lawe for her owne: For  
a Curtizans action of the Case, will hold as well as  
a Vsurers plea of debt, for ten ith hundred. If  
Bride-well stood in *Venice*, a golden key (more ea-  
silie then a picklocke) would open all the doores  
of it: For Lechery heere lyes night and day with  
one of Prides daughters (Liberty) and so farre is  
the infection of this Pestilence spredde, that euery  
boye there has much harlot in his eyes: Religion  
goes all in changeable silkes, and weares as manie  
maskes as she do'es colours: Churches stand like  
Rocks, to which very fewe approach, for feare of  
ship-wrack.

*Drunkennes  
both root'd  
from the Low  
countrie into  
great Brit-  
taine.*

The seuen deadly finnes, are there in as great  
authoritie, as the seuen Electors in *Germany*, and  
women in greater then both: In so much as drun-  
kenness, which was once the Dutch-mans head-  
ake, is now become the Englishmans: so ielouzy,  
that

## Coniuring.

that at first was whipt out of Hell, because the tormented euen Duels, lies now euery howre in the *Venetians* bolom: Euery Noble man grows there like a Beeche tree, for a number of beasts couche vnder his shade: euery Gentleman aspires rather to be counted great then good, weighing out good works by pounds, & good deeds by drams: their promises are Ecues, their performances holidays, for they worke hard vpon the one, and are idle on the other. Three thinges there are dog-cheap, learning, poore mens sweat, and oathes: Farmers in that countrey are pettie Tyrants, and Landlords Tyrants ouer those Farmers, Epicures grow as fat there, as in Englād, for you shall haue a slaue eat more at a meale, thē ten of the Guard, & drink more in two daies, then all *Maning-tree* does at a Whisfun-ale. Our Rankyder of the *Stygian* borders seeing how well these Pupils profited vnder their *Italian* School-master, and that all countreyes liu'de obedient to the Luciferan'awes, resol'd to change Post-horse no more, but to conclude his Peregrination, hauing scene fashions, and gotten Table-talk enough by his trauell. In a few minutes therefore is hee come to the banck-side of *Acheron*, where you are not bayted at by whole kennels of yelping watermen, as you are at Westminster-bridge, and ready to be torne in peeces to haue two pence rowed out of your purse: no, Shipwrights there could hardlie liue, there's but one boate, and in that one *Charon* is the onely Ferry-man, so that if a *Cales* Knight should bawle

F

his

## A knights

his heart out, hee cannot get a paire of oares there, to doe him grace with ( I ply'de your Worshipp first, ) but must be glad to goe with a Sculler: By which meanes, though the fare be small (for the watermans wages was at first but a half-peny, then it came to a peny, t'is now mended, and is growne to three halte pence, for all things wax deere in Hell, as well as vpon earth, by reason t'is so populous, ) yet the gaynes of it are greater in a quarter, then ten Westerne Barges get in a yeere: *Datchet Ferry* comes nothing neere it.

It is for all the world, like *Graves-end Barge*: and the passengers priuiledged alike, for there's no regard of age, of sexe, of beaurty, of riches, of valor, of learning, of greatnes, or of birth: Hee that comes in first, sits no better then the last.

*Will Sommers* giues not *Richard* the third the cushions, the Duke of *Guyze* & the Duke of *Shoredische* haue not the bradth of a benche betweene them, *Jane Shore* and a Gold-smiths wife are no better one then another.

*Mors Scep-  
ta, Legionis  
in aquas.*

Kings and Clownes, Souldiers and Cowards, Church-men and Sextons, Aldermen and Cobblers, are all one to *Charon*: For his *Naulum*, *Lucke* (the old Recorders foole) shall haue as much mar, as *Syr Lancelot* of the Lake: He knowes, though they had an oar in euery mans Boat in the World, yet in his they cannot challenge so much as a stretcher: And therefore (though hee sayles continually with wind and Tyde, (he makes the prowdest of them all to stay his leasure. It was a Comedy,

*The Water-  
man of Hell,  
is, as Christ  
knows, as  
our Water-  
men.*

## Coniuring.

to see what a crowding (as if it had bene at a newe Play,) there was vpon the *Acherontique Strand*, (so that the Poste was faine to rarry his turne, because he could not get neere enough the shore: He pur-  
pos'd therefore patiently to walke v<sup>p</sup> and downe, til the Coast was cleare, and to note the condition of all the passengers. Amongst whom there were Courtiers, that brought with em whole Trunks *The Passen-*  
of apparell, which they had bought, and large pat-<sup>gers.</sup> tents for *Monopolies* which they had beg'd: Law-  
yers laden with leases, & with *purchas'd Lordships*,  
Churchmen so purfy & so windlesse with bearing  
three or four *Church linings*, that they could scarce  
speake: Marchants laden with baggs of golde, for  
which they had rob'd their *Princes Custome*: Schol-  
lers with *Aristotle* and *Ramus* in cloake-bags, (as if  
they ment to pull down the Diuel) in disputation,  
being the subtillest *Logician*, but full of *Sophistrie*:  
Captains, some in guilt armour (vnbatred,) some  
in buffe leikens, plated o're with massy siluer lace,  
(raiz'd out of the ashes of dead pay,) & bankrupt  
citizens, in swarms like *porters*, sweating basely vn-  
der the burdens of that, for which other men had  
sweat honestly before. All which (like *Burgers in a*  
*Neiherland towne taken by Freebooters*,) were com-  
pell'd to throwe downe bag and baggage, before  
they could haue *passorte* to be shipt into the *Flem-  
mish Hye of Hell*: For if euery man should be suf-  
ferd to carry with him out of the world, that which  
he took most delight in, it were enough to drown  
him, and to cast awaye the Vessell hee goes in:

## A knights

*Charon* therefore stripes them of all, and leaues them more bare then Irish beggers: And glad they were ( for all their howling to see themselves so fleec'd,) that for their siluer they could haue waf- rage ouer. In therefore they thrung, some wa- ding vp to the knees, and those were young men: they were loth to make too much haste, swearing they came thither before their times.

Some, vp to the middles, & those were women, they seeing young men goe before them, were a- sham'd not to vesture sarder than they. Others wa- ded to the chin, & those were old men, they seeing their gold taken from them, were desperate, and would haue drown'd themselves: but that *Charon* slipping his Oare vnder their bellies, tost them out of the water, into his Wherry. The boate is made of nothing but the wormeaten ribs of coffins, nai- led together, with the splinters of fle. hlesse shin- bones, dig'd out of graues, being broken in peeces. The sculs that he rowes with, are made of Setxons spades, which had bin hung vp at the end of some great plague, the bench he sits vpon, a rank of dead mens sculs. The worst of them hauing bin an Em- peror, as great as *Charlemaine*: And a huge heape of their beards seruing for his cushion: the Mast of the hoat is an arme of an Yew tree, whose boughs (in stead of Rosemary) had wont to be worne at buri als. The sayle, two patcht winding sheetes, wherein a *Broker* & an *Vsurer* had bin laid: for their linnen, will last longest, because it comes cōmon- ly out of Lauender, and is seldome worne.

*The Ruffe of  
which the  
Wherry is  
made.*

The



## Coniuring.

The waterman himfelfe is an olde grifly-fac'd fellow: a beard filthier then a Bakers mawkin that *What man.* hee sweepes his ouen, which hung full of knotted *ner of fellow* Elf-locks, and ferues him for a Swabber in fowle *the caller is.* weather to clenfe his Hulk: A payre of eyes staring fo wide (by beeing blear'd with the wind) as if the lidds were lifted vp with gags to keep them open: More falt Rewmaticke water runnes out of them, then would pickle all the Herrings that fhall come out of Yarmouth: A payre of handes fo hard and feal'd ouer with durte, that Paffengers thinke hee weares Gauntlets, and more ftinkingly mufty are they then the fifs of Night-men, or the fingers of bryberie, which are neuer cleane: His breath belches out nothing but rotten dampes, which lye fo thicke and foggie on the face of the Waters, that his Fare is halfe choak't, ere they can get to Land: The Sea-coale furnaces of ten Brew-houfes, make not fuch a fmoke, nor the Tallowe pans of fifteene Chaundlers (when they melt,) fend out fuch a fmell: Hee's dreadfull in looks, and curriſh in Language, yet as kinde as a Courtyer where he tak's. *Hee appeared.* Hee fits in all ftormes bare headed, for if hee had a cap, he would not put it off to a Pope: A gowne gyrt to him (made all of Wolues skinnes) tanned, (figuring his greedynesse) but worne out fo long, that it has almoſt worne away his elbowes: Hee's thicke of hearing to them that ſue to him, but to thoſe againſt whoſe willes hee's ſent for, a Fiddler beares not the creaking of a windowe ſooner.



# A knights

Astouching the Riuer, looke howe' *Moore-*  
*dische* shewes , when the water is three-quarters  
out, and by reason the stomach of it is ouer-laden,  
is readie to fall to casting, so does that, it stincks  
almost worse, is almost as paytonous, altogether  
so muddie, altogether so blacke: In taste very bit-  
ter, (yet to thole that knowe howe to distill these  
deadly waters,) very wholesome.

## CHAP. V.

*The Post and Charon talke, as Charon rowes,  
He Fee's Helus Porter, and then on hee goes:  
Sessions in Hell: Soules brought vnto the barre,  
Arraign'd and iudg'd, A Catalogue who they are.*



*Charon*, hauing discharged his  
fraight, the Packet carrier (that  
all this while wayted on the o-  
ther side,) cry'de A boat, a boat:  
His voyce was knowne by the  
Tune, and (weary though hee  
were,) ouer to him comes our  
*Ferry-man*. To whom (to haue as euer euer hee  
wastet (*Charon* complaines what a bawling there  
he becom, with what Fares hee ha bene posted,  
and how much tugging (his boat being so twacke)  
he has split oae of his Oares, and broken his Bid-  
dook, so that he can row but lazily til it be mended.  
And

## Coniuring.

And were it not that the Soules payes exēsiue Rent for dwelling in the body, he sweares (by the *Stygian Lake*) hee would not let em passe thus for a trifle, but raise his price: why may not he doe it as well as Puncks and Trades men? Herevpon hee brags what a number of gallant fellows & goodly wenchies went lately ouer with him, whose names he has in his booke, and could giue him, but that they earnestlie intreated not to haue their names spread any farther (for their heyres sakes, because most of them were too great in some mens books already. The only wonder (says *Charon*) that these Passengers drue mee into, is, to see how strangely the world is altered since *Pisito* and *Proserpina* were married: For whereas in the old time, men had wont to come into his boate all flash't, (some with one arme, some with neuer a leg, and others with heades like calues, cleft to their shoulders, and the mouths of their very wounds gaping so wide, as if they were crying, A boat, a boat,) now contrary-wise, his fares are none but those that are poyson'd by their wiues for lust, or by their heires for liuing, or burnt by Whores, or reeling into Hell out of *Taverns*: or if they happē to come bleeding, their greatest glorie is a stab, vpon the giuing of a lye.

So that if the 3. *Destinies* spin no finer threads then these, men must cyther (like *Aesculapius*) be made immortal for meere pittie sake, and be sent vp to *Iupiter*, or else the *Land of Black-amoores* must bee made bigger: for the Great Lord of *Tartarie* wil shortlie haue no roome for all his Retayners,

which

*Miscant  
Aconita M.  
uerca.  
Falsus ante  
diem patris  
inquiris in  
anno.*

## A knights

which would be a great dishonour to him, considering hee's now the onely houl-keeper.

By this time, *Charon* looking before him (as Watermen vse to doe) that's to say, behinde him, spied he was hard at shoare: wherevpon seeing hee had such dooings (that if it held still) hee must needs take a seruant, (and so make a paire of oares for *Pluto*) he offered great wages to the *Knight* passant, to be his iourney-man: but hee being onely for the Diuells land seruice, told him he could not giue ouer his seruice, but assuring him, hee would enforme *his Mr.* (the King of *Erebus*,) of all that was spoken, hee payde the boate hyre fitting his Knighthood, leapt ashore, and so parted.

*The Porter  
of Hell,*

The wayes are so plaine, and our trauellers on foote so famylar with them, that hee came sooner to the Court gate of *Auernus*, then his fellowe (the Wherry-man) could fasten his booke on the other side of *Acheron*: the Porter (though he knew him well enough, and fawn'd vpon him,) would not let him passe, till hee had his due: for euery officer there is as greedy of his Fees, as they are here. You mistake, if you imagine that *Plutoes* Potter is like one of those big fellows that stand like *Giants* at Lordes gates (having bellyes bumbasted with ale in Lambs-wool) and with Sacks: and checks strutting out (like two footeballes,) beeing blowen vp with powder beefe and brewis: yet hee's as surly as those Key-turners are, but lookes as little more scurrily: No, no, this doorekeeper waytes not to take money of those that passe in, to behold the

*Infer.*

## Coniuring.

*Infernall Tragedies*, neither has he a lodge to dync and lup in, but onely a kennell, and executes his bawling office meerey for victuals: his name is *Cerberus*, but the household call him more properly, *The Black dog of Hell*: He has three heads, but no hayre vpon them, (the place is too hot to keepe hayre on, for in stead of hayre they are all rurl'd ouer with snakes, which reach from the crownes of his three heads alongst the ridge of his back to his very tayle, and thats wreathed like a dragons taile: twentic couple of hounds make not such a damnable noyse, when they howle, as he does when he barks: his propertie is to wag his taile, when any comes for enterance to the gate, and to lick their hands, but vpon the least offer to scape out, he leaps at their throates, sure hee's a mad dog, for wherefocuer he bites, it rankles to the death: His eyes are euer watching, his eares euer listning, his pawes euer catching, his mouthes are gaping: In somuch, that day and night, he lyes howling to be sent to *Paris Garren*, rather then to be vs'd so like a curre as he is.

The Post, to stop his throat, threwe him a Sop, *Fishes in Hell.* and whil'st hee was deuouring of that, hee passed through the gates. No sooner was he entred, but he met with thousands of miserable soules, pyneond and dragd in chaines to the Barre, where they were to receiue their tryall, with bitter lamentations bewayling (all the way as they went) and with lowd exccerations cursing the bodies with whom they sometimes frolickly kept cōpany, for leading  
G them.

## A knights

them to those impieties, for which they must now (cuen to their viter vndoing) deerly answer: it was quarter Sessions in Hel, & though the Post-master had bin at many of their arraignments, and knew the horror of the Executions, yet the very sight of the prisoners struck him now into an astonishable amazement.

On not withstanding he goes with intent to deliver the Supplication, but so busly was Bohemoth (the prince of the Diuels ) and such a preale was within the Court and about the Barre, that by no thrusting or shouldring, could hee get access; the best time for him must be, to watch his rising at the adiourning of the Sessions , and therefore hee skrewes himselfe by all the insinuating Art he can, into the thickest of the crowd, and within reach of the Clarke of the Peaces voyce, to heare all their indirements.

*Sessions in  
Hel.*

*Sinne is the  
Iury.*

*Conscience  
giues in evi-  
dence,*

The Iudges are set, (being three in number) seuer in look, sharp in iustice, shrill in voyce, vnsubiect & passion: the prisoners are souls that haue committed treason against their creation: they are cald to the bar, their number infinit, their crimes numberlesse: The Iury that must passe vpon them, are their sinnes, who are impanel'd out of the seuerall countries, & are sworn to find whose Conscience is the witnes, who vpon the booke of their liues, where all their deedes are written, giues in dangerous euidence against them, the Furies (who stand at the elbow of their Conscience) are there ready with stripes to make them confesse, for eyther they

## Coniuring.

they are the Beadels of Hell that whippe soules in Lucifers Bride-well, or else his Executioners to put them to worse torments: The Inditements are of seuerall qualities, according to the seuerall offences; Some are arraigned for ambition in the Court; Some for corruption in the church; Some for crueltie in the campe; Some for hollow-heartednes in the Citie; Some for eating men alieue in the Countrey, euery particular soule has a particular sinne, at his heeles to condemne him, so that to pleade not guiltie, were folly: to beg for mercy, madnesse: for if any should doe the one, hee can put himselfe vpon none but the diuel and his Angels: and they (to make quick worke) giue him his Passport. If do the other, the hãds of ten kings vnder their great Seales will not be taken for his pardon. For though Conscience comes to this court, poore in attire, diseased in his flesh, wretched in his face, heavy in his gate, and hoarse in his voice, yet carries hee such stings within him, to torture himselfe, if he speake not truth, that euery word is a Iudges sentence, & when he has spoken, the accursed is suffred neither to plead for himselfe, nor to see any Lawyer, to argue for him.

In what a lamentable condition therefore stands the unhappie prisoner, his Inditemnt is impleadable, his euidence irrefutable, the fact impardonable, the Iudge impenitrable, the Iudgement formidable: the torments insufferable, the manner of them invterable: he must endure a death without dying, Tormentes ending with worse beginnings,

*The seuerall  
inditements,*

*The miserable  
of a prisoner  
in that lury.*

## A knights

beginnings, by his shrikes others shall be affrighted, himselfe afflicted, by thousands pointed at, by not one amongst millions pitied, hee shall see no good that may help him, what he most does loue, shall be taken from him, and what hee most doth loath, shall be powred into his bosome. Adde hereunto the faide cogitation of that dismall place, to which he is cōdemned, the remēbrance of which is almost as dolorous, as the punishments there to be endured. In what colours shall I lay downe the true shape of it? Assist my inuention.

Suppose that being gloriously attired, deliciously feasted, attended on maiestically, Musicke charming thine eare, beautie thine eye; and that in the very height of al worldly pompe that thought can aspire to, thou shouldest be tumbled downe, from some high goodly pinnacle (builded for thy pleasure) into the bottome of a Lake, whose depth is immeasurable, & circuit incomprehensible: And that being there, thou shouldest in a moment be ringed about, with all the murtherers that euer haue bin since the first foundation of the world, with all the Atheists, al the church-robbers, al the Incestuous Rauishers, & all the polluted villaines, that euer suckt damnation from the breastes of black impietie, that the place it selfe is gloomy, hideous, and inaccessible, pestilent by dampes, and rotten vapors, haunted with spirits, and pitcht all over, with cloudes of darkenes, so clammy & palpable, that the eye of the Moone is too dull to pierce through them, and the fires of the Sun too weake



## Coniuring.

weake to dissolue them , then that a Sulphurous stench must stil strike vp into thy nostrils, Adders and Toads be still crawling on thy bosome, Mandrakes & night Rauens still shrieking in thine eares, Snakes euer sucking at thy breath, and which way soeuer thou turnest, a fire flashing in thine eyes, yet yeelding no more light than what with a glimpse may shew others how thou art tormented, or else shew vnto thee the tortures of others , and yet the flames to be so deuouring in the burning , that should they but glowe vpon Mountaines of Iron, they were able to melte them like Mountaines of Snow. And last of all, that all these horrors are not wouen together, to last for yeeres, but for ages of worlds, yea for worlds of ages; Into what gulfe of desperate calamity, would not the poorest begger now throwe himselfe head-long : rather then to tast the least dram of this bitterness : If imagination can giue being to a more miserable place then this described ? Such a one, or no worse then such a one, is that , into which the guiltie Soules are led captiue, after they haue this condemnation.

And what tongue is able to relate the groans and vlations of a wretch so distressed, a hundred pennes of Steele would be worne blunt in the description, and yet leaue it vnfinished.

# A knights

## CHAP. V.

*The Writ for Golds enlargement now is read,  
And by the Prince of Darkenes answered:  
The Dinell abroad his commendations sends:  
All Traitors are his Sonnes, Brokers his friends.*



Et vs therfore sithence the *Infer-*  
*mall Sessions* are rejourned, & the  
Court breaking vp, seeke out his  
knightship, who hauing wayted  
all this while for the *Dinell*, hath  
by this time deliuer'd to his *pawes*  
the *Supplication*, about *Golde*, & to *Matthio* his *Se-*  
*cretary* is reading it to him, but before he was vp to  
the middle of it, the work-maister of *Witches*, snat-  
ched away the Paper, & thrust it into his bosome  
in great choller, sayling at his Letter-carrier, and  
threatning to haue him la'sht by the *Furies*, for his  
lpytring so long, or *Cauteriz'd* with horte Irons  
for a *Fugitive*. But *Atephostophiles* discoursing  
from point to point, what payes hee had taken in  
the *Survey* of *euery* Countrey, and how hee had  
spent his time here, *Serjeant Sathan* gaue him his  
blessing, and told him that during his absence, the  
*Wryter* that penn'd the *Supplication* had ben landed  
by *Ycharon*, of whom he willed to enquire within  
what part of the *ir* dominion hee had taken vp his  
lodging. His purpose is to answer euery worde  
by word of mouth, yet because he knowes, that at  
the

## Coniuring.

the returne of his *Post-ship*, and walking vpon the *Exchange of the Worlde*, (which he charges him to hasten, for the good of the *Syagiankingdome*, that altogether stands vpon quicke trafficke) they will flutter about him, crying, What newes? what newes? what squibs, or rather what peeces of ordinance doth the *M. Gunner of Gehent*, discharge against so lawcie a suitor, that by the Artill. rie of his Secretaries penne, hath shaken the walles of his Kingdome, and made so wide a breache, that anie *Syr Giles* may looke into his, and his Officers dooings: to stop their mouthes with some thing, stop them with this: That touching the enlargement of *Gold*, (which is the first branch of the *Petition*;) So it is, that *Plusus* his kinsman (being the onely setter vp of tempting Idolles,) was borne a Cripple, but had his eye sight as faire as the daye, for hee could see the faces & fashions of all men in the world in a twinkling. At which time, for all he went vpon Crutches, hee made shifte to walke abroad with many of his friends, Maie they were none but good men. A Poet, or a Philosopher, might then haue sooner had his company, than a Iustice of Peace: Vertue at that time, went in good cloaths, & vice sed vpon beggery. Almes baskets, honestie, and plaine dealing, had all the Trades in their owne handes, So that Vnthrifts, Cheaters, and the rest of their Faction, (though it were the greater) were borne downe, for not an Angell durst bee seene to drink in a Tauerne with them: wherevpon they were all in danger to be famisht:

*The Dinall  
answer to  
the Petition.*

*Gold at the  
first was lame  
and went up  
& down with  
good men, but  
now hee is  
blinde, and  
cares not  
what fools  
Which  
leads him.*

## A knights

Which enormity *Iupiter* wisely looking into, and seeing *Plutus* dispersing his gistes, amongst none but his honest brethren, stricke him (either in anger or enuie) starke blinde, so that euer since hee hath play'de the good fellowe, for now euer y gull may leade him vp and downe like *Guy*, to make sports in any drunken assemblie, now hee regards not who thrusts his handes into his pockets, nor how it is spent; a foole shall haue his heart nowe, as soone as a Physitian: And an Assle that cannot spell, goe laden away with double Duckets from his *Indian* store-house, when *Ibi Homere*, that hath layne sick seuentene yeeres together of the Vniuersitie plague, (watching and want) only in hope at the last to finde some cure, shall not for an hundred waight of good Latine, receiue a two penny waight in Siluer, his ignorance (arising from his blindness) is the onely cause of this Comedie of errors: so that vntill some Quack-saluer or other (either by the help of Tower hill water, or any other, either Physicall or Chirurgicall meanes) can picke out that pin and webbe which is stucke into both his eyes, (and that will very hardly be.) It is irreuocably set downe, in the Adamantine booke of Fate, that *Golde* shall be a perpetuall slaue to slaues, a drudge to fooles, a foole to make Woodcocks mery, whilst wisemen mourne: or if at any time he chance to break prison, and flie for refuge into the Chamber of a Courtier, to a meere hawking country Gentleman, to a young student at the lawe, or to any Tradesmans eldest sonne, that rides

*A Curse laid  
vpon gold.*

## Coniuring.

rides forth to cast up his Fathers reckonings, in fortified Tancrns, Such mighty searche shalbe made for him, such Hue & Crie after him, such mis-rule kept, vntill he be smelt out, that poore Gold must be glad to get him out of their companie, Castles cannot protect him, but he must be apprehended, and suffer for it. Nowe as touching the seauen leaved Tree, of the deadly sinnes, which in the *Supplication* are likewise requested to be heauen downe, his Suite is vntreasonable, for that growes so rancke in euery mans garden, and the flowers of it worne so much in euery womans bosome, till at the last generall Autumnian quarter of the dreadfull yeare, when whole Kingdomes (like seare and sap-lesse *sinne beares* leaues) must be shaken in pieces by the consuming *fruit all the* breath of fire, & all the fruits of the earth be raked *yeare long* together, by the Spirit of Stormes, & burnt in one heap like stubble, till then, it is impossible to cleere the oaken forehead of it, or to loppe off any of the branches. And let this satisfy itching Newes-hunters for so much of mine answer to the poore fellows *Supplication*, as I meane to haue published to the world: What more I haue to utter, shall be in his care, because he was more busie in his prating then a Barber, with thee my Seruaunt, about my household affaires, and therefore it is to be doubted hee lurket in our *Cimmerian* Prouinces, but as an Intelligence, which if hee prooued, hee shall buy it with his soule: Dispatelre therefore (my faithfull Incarnate Diuell,) proclaime these thinges to the next Region aboue vs.

## A knights

*The Diuell  
sendes his co-  
mendations.*

Goe and deliuer my most hartty condemnations to all those that steal subiects hearts from their Soueraigns, say to all those, they shall haue my letters of Mart for their Pyracie: factious Guyzards, that lay trains of seditiō to blow vp the cōmon wealth, I hug them as my children, to all those churchmen that bind theselues together in schismes, like bundles of thorns, only to prick the sides of Religion, till her heart bleede: I will giue them new orders. To all those that vntyle their Neighbours houses, that whilst storms are beating them out, they theselues may enter in, bestowe vpon such officers of mine, a thousand condemnations from their maiester, tho they be sitting at King Arthurs Table: When thou doest thy message, they shall haue Te-  
nements of me for nothing in Hell.

In brieft, tell all the Brokers in Long-Lane, Hounsditch, or else wher, with all the rest of their Collegued Suburbians, that deale vppon ouerworne commodities, and whose Soules are to vs impawned, that they lye safe enough, and that no cheater can hook them out of our hands, bid them sweate and sweare in their vocation (as they do hourly) if thou beeing a knight of the Post, canst not helpe them to oathes, that may make them get the Diuell and all, they haue a sound Carde on their sides, for I my selfe will *Abi in malam*, goe and minde thy businesse.

CHAP.

# Coniuring.

## CHAP. VII.

*A Vsurer describ'd: his going downe to Hell:  
The Post to him a strange discourse doth tell:  
Hee teaches him the waye, and dooth discover  
What Riues the departed Soules goe ouer.*



Is warrant beeing thus sign'de, *The picture*  
the messenger departs, but be- *of a Usurer.*  
fore hee could get to the viter-  
most *Ferris*, he met with an old,  
leane, meagre fellowe, whose  
eyes was sunke so deepe into his  
head, as if they had beene set in  
backward, his haire was thinner then his cheekes,  
and his cheekes so much worne away, that when  
he spake, his tongue smoak't, and that was burn't  
blacke, with his hore and valiant breath, was seene  
to mooue too and fro so plainly, that a wise man  
might haue taken it for the Snuffe of a candle in a  
Muscouie Lant-horne, the Barber Surgions had  
beg'd the body of a man at a Sessions, to make an  
Anatomie, and that Anatomy this wretched crea-  
ture begged of them to make him a body, *Charon*  
had but newly landed him: yet it seem'd he stood *How vsurers*  
in pittysfull feare, for his eyes were no bigger then *get into hell.*  
pinnes heads, with blubbring and howling, kee-  
ping a coile to haue some body shew him the nea-  
rest way to hell, which he doubted he had lost, the  
other puts him into a pathe, that would dire@lie



## A knights

bring him thither, but before he bid him farewell, our blacke knight inquired of him what hee was: who answered, that he was sometimes one that liued vpon the Lechery of mettalls, for hee could make one hundred pound be great with child, and be deliuered with another in a very short time, his mony (like pigions) laid euery month, he had bin in vpright tearmes, an Usurer: And vnderstanding that he fel into the hãds of the hell post, he offered him after a penny a mile, between that & þe townes end hee was going too, so he would be his guide.

Which mony, when the watermen came to rise him, he swallowed downe, and rake for it afterwards, because hee knewe not what neede hee should haue, the waies being damnable: But the goer of the diuel's errands told him, if he would allow him Pursuants fees, he durst not carue them, hee would doe him any Knights seruice, but to play the good Angells part, and guide him; he must pardon him. Doctor *Dines* request him (in a whining accents) to tell him if there were any rich men in belly & if by any base skudgery, which the diuell shall put him too, & which hee cle willingly moile in, he should scrape any muck together, whether he may set vp his trade in hel, & whither there be any brokers there, that with picking strawes out of pstore thatch houses to build nestes where his twelve pences should lenger, might get fethers to his backe, and their owne too. To all which questions, the vau curier answers briefly, that he shall meete a number there, who once wear in blacke

## Coniuring.

black velvet coats, and welsted gownes, but of Brokers, theres a Longer lane in Hell, than there is in London. Marry for opening shops, and to keepe a Bawdy house, for Lady *Pecunia*, *Hoc si fata negant*, If the Bayliffe of *Barathrum* denye that priuiledge to those that haue serued twice seuen yeeres in the Freedome, theres no reason a Forrayner should taste the fauour.

This news tho it went coldly down, yet as those that are troubled with the tooth-ache, enquire of others what the payne is, that haue had them drawn out, & think by that means they lessen their owne. So it is some ease to Syr *Timothy*, thirtie per cent, to haiken out the worst that others haue endured, he desires therfore to know how far it is from the earth to hell; & being told that hell is iust so many miles from Earth, as earth is from Heauen, he stands in a brown study, wondring if the length of the iournies were both alike to him, how it should happen, that he took rather the one path then the other. But then cursing himself, that euer he fell in loue with money, and that which is contrary to nature, since euer made a cracke *French Crowne*, beget an *English Angell*, he roarde out, & swore that gold sure would dambe him. For sayes hee, my greedinesse to see mine eye with that, made me starue my belly, and haue vndone those for sixe pence, that were readie to starue. And into such an Apoplexie of Soule, fell I into, with the lust of money, that I had no sense of other happinesse: So that whil' st in my Closet I sat numbring my bags,

## A knights

the last houre of my life was told out, before I could tel the first heap of *gold*, birdlime is the sweate of the Oake tree, the dung of the Blackbird falling on that tree, turnes into that slimie snare, and in that snare, is the bird her selfe taken. So fares it me, mony is but the excrement of the earth, in which couetous wretches (like swine) rooting continually, cate thorowe the earth so long, till at length they cate themselves into hell. I see therefore, that as Harts, being the most cowardly and hartlesse creatures, haue also the largest hornes. So we that are drudges to heapes of drosse, haue base & leane consciences, but the largest damnation. There appeared to *Timotheus*, an Athenian, *Demonijumbra*, and that gaue him a net to catch Cities in, yet for all that he died a begger. Sure it was *Vmbra demonis* that taught me the rule of Interest: for in getting that, I haue lost the principall (my soule). But I pray you tel me, saies my setter vp of Scriueners, Must I be stript thus out of all? Shall my Fox-furd gownes be lockt vp from me? Must I not haue so much as a shirt vpon me? Heers worse pilling and polling then amongst my countrey men the Vsurers, not a rag of linnen about me, to hide my nakednesse.

No, sayes the light Horse. man of *Zymbe* no linnen is worne heere, because none can bee wouen strong enough to hold, neither doe any such good huswies come hither as to make cloath, onely the Dettinies are allowed to spinne, but their yarne serues to make smockes for *Proserpina*. You are  
NOW

## Coniuring.

now as you must euer bee , you shall neede no cloathes, the aire is so extreame hot, besides, there be no Tailors sufferd to liue here, because (they as well as Players) haue a hell of their owne,) (vnder their shopboard) & there lye their tormented soules, parcht out with nothing but rags.

This Carcere being ended, our Lansquenight of *Love-Germanie*, was readie to put spurs to his horse, and take leaue, because he saw what disease hung vpon him , and that his companion was hard at his heeles, and was loth to proceede in his iourney.

Buche, *Qui nummos admiratur*, the pawn-groper, clingde about his knees like a Horfleece, and coniurde him, as euer he pittied a wretch eaten to the bare bones, by the sacred hunger of gold, that he would either bestowe vpon him, a short Table (such a one as is tide to the tayle of most Almanacks) chalking out the hye-waies , be they neuer so durtie, and measuring the length of all the miles betweene towne, and towne, to the breadth of a hayre, or if this Geographical request tooke vp too much conceald land to haue it granted, that yet (at last) he would tell him, whether he were to passe ouer any more riuers, and what the name of this filthy puddle was , ouer which hee was lately brought by a dogged waterman, because sithence he must runne into the diuels mouth , hee would runne the neereft way , least hee wearied himselfe.

Of this last request, the Lacquy of this great  
Leuiathan,

## A knights

*The Rivers  
which the  
soule passeth.*

*Remembrance  
of the finnes,  
the first  
water.*

Leuiathan, promise he should be maister, but he would not bring him to a miles end by land, (they were too many to meddle with). You shall vnderstand therefore (saies our wild Irish footeman) that this first water (which is now cast behind you) is *Acheron*, It is the water of trouble, & works like a Sea in a tempest (for indeede this first is the worst) It hath a thousand creekes, a thousand windings, and turnings, It vehemently boyles at the bottome (like a Caldron of molten leade,) when on the top it is smoother then a still streamer: And vpon great reason is it calde the Riuer of molestation, for when the soule of man is vpon the point of departing from the Shores of life, and to be shipt away into another world, she is vext with a conscience, and an anxious remembrance of all the parts that euer she plaid on the vnruly stage of the world: She repeats not by roate, but by heart, the iniuries done to others, and indignities wrought against her selfe: She turnes ouer a large volume of accountes, and findes that shee runne out in pride, in lustes, in riots, in blasphemies, in irreligion, in wallowing through so many enormous & detestable crimes, that to looke back vpon them, (being so infinite), and vpon her own face, (being so fowle), the very thought makes her desperate. She neuer spake, or delighted to heare spoken, any bawdie language, but it now sings in her eare, neuer lusted after luxurious meates, but their taste is now vpon her tongue, neuer fed the sight with any licentious object, but now they come

## Coniuring.

come all into her eye, euerie wicked thought before, is now to her a dagger, euerie wicked word a death, euerie wicked act a damnation: If shee scape falling into this Ocean, she is miraculously saued from a shipwracke, hee must needs be a churlish but a cunning Waterman, that steeres in a Tempest so dangerous: This first Riuer is a bitter water in taste, and vnfauoury in sent, but who-soeuer drinks downe but halfe a draught of his rememired former follies, Oh it cannot chuse but be *Amarulentum potabile*. Gall is hony to it, *Acheron* like is a thicke water, and howe can it otherwise choose, being stirred with so many thousand fighting perturbations.

Having passed ouer this first Riuer (as now you are) you shall presently haue your waie stop with another, Its a little cut by land thither, but a tedious and dangerous voyage by water.

Lies there a Boate readie (quoth my rich Iew of *Atalia*) to take me in so soone as I call? No, saies the other, you must wait your mariners leisure, the same wrangling fellowe that was your first man, is your last man: Marry you shall lie at euery Harbours mouth for a wind, til *Belzebub* hale you for *Acheron*. (after many circumgrations) sale in to the *Stygian Lake* (your second Riuer carries that name) It is the water of Loathsomnes, and runnes with a swifter Current then the former: for when the soule sees deaths Barge tarrying for her, shee begins to be sorie for her ante-asted euils, and then shees sayling ouer *Acheron*, but when shee drawes the Curtaine, and lockes narrowly vpon the pic-

*Loathing of  
our sinnes the  
second water*

# A knights

tures, which her own hand drew, and findes them to be vgly, she abhorres her owne work-manship, and makes haste to hoiyle vp more Sayles, and to bee transported swiftilie ouer the *Stygian* Torrent, whose waters are so reuerend, that the Gods haue no other oath to sweare by.

*Repentance  
of our finnes,  
the third  
Water.*

The third Ryuer is *Cocytus*, somewhat clearer then both the other, and is the water of Repentance, beeing an Arme of *Styx*: Many haue heere bene cast away, and frozen to death, when the Riuer hath waxen cold, (as oftentimes it doth,) neither are all sortes of Soules suffred to saile vpon it, for to some (as if the water had sense, and could not brooke an vnworthy burden,) it swells vp into tempests, and drownes them, to others more loue cannot appeare in Dolphins to men, then in that does smoothnes.

*Unlesse you  
saile safely o-  
uer the wa-  
ters of Re-  
pentance, you  
are in danger  
to be drowned  
in Despaire.*

Besides these, there are *Phlegeton* and *Pyrphlegeton* that fall in with *Cocytus* (burning Riuers,) In which (tho they be dreadfull to looke vppon,) are no viter danger: If the Ferry-man waite you safely, ouer the waters of Repentance, otherwise those hote liquors will scalde you.

But what a Traytor am I, (to the vndiscovered Kingdomes,) thus to bring to light their dearest Treasury? sworne am I to the Imperiall State Infernall, and what dishonour would it bee to my Knight-hood, to be found forsworne?

Seale vp your lips therefore I charge you, and drinke downe a full bowle of this Lethæan water, which



## Coniuring.

which shall wash out of you the remembrance of any thing I haue spoken: Be proude thou Grand-child of Mummō, that I haue spent these minutes vpon thee, for neuer shall any breathing mortall man, with tortures wring out of mee so much againe. There lyes your way: Fare well.

In such a strange Language was this *ultimum Vale* sent forth, that Mountieus Money-monger stood onely staring and yawning vpon him, but could speake no more: yet at the last (Coniuring vp his best Spirits, he onely in a dumb shew, (with pittifull action, like a Player, (when hee's out of his part,) made signes to haue a Letter deliuered by the Carrier, of condemnation, to his Sonne, (a young Reueller, prick't downe to stand in the *Mercers bookes* for next *Christmasse*,) which in a dumbe shewe, likewise beeing receyued, they both turn'de backe the Vsurer, looking as hungrie, as if he had kist the post.



# A knights

## CHAP. VIII.

*Mells Sculler and the Pursuant of Heaven,  
Call mery reckonings vp, but growe not enen  
Till a Plague falls: Soldiers set out a throate  
For Charon: Eps comes mangled to his boate.*

*Lucian in  
Dialog.*



T the Banck'ende, when *Plutoes* pursuants came to take water, *Mercurie*, (that runs of all the errands betweene the Gods) hauing bin of a message from *Ceres*, to her daughter *Proserpine*, (the Queen of lower *Affrica*, finding *Charon* idle in his boat, because (as it had bene out of *Terme time*) no *Fares* was stirring, fel to cast vp old reckonings, between himselfe, & the weatherbeaten Sculler, for certain tryling money, layd out about *Charons* businesse. So that the Knight slipping in like a Constable to part a Fray, was requested to beas Arbitrator.

- The first Item that stood in his Bill, was,

For nayles to mend your Wherrie, when twoo *Dutchmen* comming drunck from the *Renishwine-house*, split three of the boards with their club fists, thinking they had cal'd for a reckoning. .iiij. pence.

Those *Butter-boxes* (sayes *Charon*) owe me a peny vpon the foote of that account: For I could distill out of them but onely three poore drops of siluer for the voyage, & all my losse at Sea. Whats next?

Item, laid out for pitch to trim your boat about the middle of the last plague, because she might go  
light

## Coniuring.

right & vare, and do her labour cleanly, xj. pence.

I am ouer-reckoned that odde penny, (quoth *Charon*, and Ile neuer yeeld to pay it, but *vi & ar- mis*, that's to say, by lawe. I disburst it (by my *Caducens* sayes the Herald) nay sayes *Charon*, if thou wilt defile thy conscience with a penny-worth of pitch, touch it with: on.

Itē, for *glew & whipcord*, to mē: *your brokē oar*, iij. d.

That's reasonable; yet I haue caryed some in my Wherie that haue had more whip-cord giuen them for nothing: on.

Item laid out for Iuniper to perfume the boate, when certain *Frenchmē* were to go by water: j. ob.

I, a pox on them, who got by that? on.

Item lent to a company of *Cowntrey-players*, being *nine in number, one sharer, & the rest Iourneymen*, that with strowling were brought to deaths door, xiiij. d. ob. vpon their stocke of apparell, to pay for boat hyre, because they would trye if they might be suffered to play in the *Diuels* name, which stock after wardes came into your clawes, and you dealt vpon it: xiiij. ob.

They had his hand to a warrant (quoth *Charon*) but their ragges serued to make me *Swabblers*, because they neuer fetcht it againe, so that belike hee proued a god Lord and master to them, and they made new *Pergementiri*. Tickle the next Minkin.

Item, when a *Cobler of Poetrie*, called a *Playe patcher*, was condemned with his Catte to be duckt three times in the cucking-stoole of *Pyriphlegeton*, (being one of the scalding Riuers,) till they both

## A knights

dropt again, because he scolded against his betters, and those whom hee liued vppon, laid out at that time for straw, to haue caried puffle away if she had kittend, to auoyd anie catterwalling in Hell. j. pennie.

Mew, they were not both wroth a pennie : on.

Item, for needle and threed to ~~burne~~ burne vp about two and fiftie holes in your sailes, and to a Botcher for halfe a dayes worke about it: vij. pence.

That botcher I preferd to be *Lucifers* Tailer, because he workes with a hot needle and burnt threed, and that seuen pence he gaue me for my good will, why should not I take bribes as well as others, I will clip that money, and melt it. Not for my Bill (sayes the Herald of the gods) for it went out of my purse, the Tayler may pay it backe againe, it is but stealing so much the more, or cutting out s. quarters to a garment, nay, *Mercurie*, you shall filch for vs both, for all the gods know you are a notable Pick-pocket, as the knight of the Post here can take his oath, but what is your *Summa totalis*, (quoth *Charon*) *Summa totalis*, answeres the other comes to three shillings and a pennie. The Sculler told him, hee was now out of Cash, it was a hard time, he doubts there is some secrete Bridge made ouer to Hell, and that they steale thither in Coaches, for euery Iusticos wife, and the wife of euery Cittizen must bee iolted now.

But how soeuer the market goes, beare with me, (quoth *Charon*) till there come another plague, or  
till

## Coniuring.

till you heare of such another battaile as was at *Newport*, or till the *Dunkirks* catch a Hoy of Hollanders, and tumble them ouer-board, or til there be more ciuill Wars in France, or if Paris garden would but fall downe againe, I should not onely wipe off this olde score, but hope to make mee a new boat. *Mercury* seeing no remedy (tho he knew well enough he was not without mony) tooke his wings, and away went he to *Olympus*. The Postes iorney lay nothing neere that path, but inquiring whether one *Pierre Penniteste* came not ouer in his Ferry: and vnderstanding, because hee could not pay his Fare, he was faine to goe a great way about to *Elizium*, thither in an Irish gallop is our swearing knight gone.

Scarce was hee out of kenne, but on the other side of the Riuer stood a companie crying out lustily, A Boat, hey, a Boat, hey, and who should they be but a gallant troope of English spirits (all mangled) looking like so many old Romans, that for ouercomming death in their manly resolutions, were sent away out of the field, crowned with the military honour of Armes. The foremost of them was a personage of so composed a presence, that Nature and Fortune had done him wrong, if they had not made him a souldier. In his countenance, there was a kinde of indignation, fighting with a kind of exalted ioy, which by his very gesture were apparantly descipherable, for he was so cond, that his soule went out of him in so glorious a triuñh: but disdainfully angry, that she wrought  
her

*William  
Eps his  
death.*

## A knights

her enargement through no more daungers: yet were there bleeding witnessses inow on his breast, which testified, he did not yeelde till he was conquered, and was not conquered, till there was left nothing of a man in him to be ouercome. For besides thole *Mortui & Muti testes*, which spake most for him, when he himselfe was past speaking, (thogh their mouthes were stopped with scarres) he made shift to lay downe an ouer-plus of life, (when the debt was discharged at one mortall payment before) onely to shew in what able account he held deathes tyranny. *Charon* glowing vpon him, demanded who he was, but hee skorning to be his owne Chronicle, and not suffering any of the rest to execute the office, they all leaped into the Ferry. Amongst whome, one that fate out of his hearing, but within the reach of the Waterman, (to shorten the way) discoursed all, thus:

*England* (quoth hee) gaue him breath, *Kent* education, he was neuer ouer-maistered, but by his own affections: against whom, whensoever he got the victorie, there was a whole man in him: he was of the sword, and knewe better how to ende quarrels, then to begine them; yet was more apt to begin, then other (better bearded) were to answer, with which (some that were euer bound to the peace) vpbraided him as a blemish. His country barring him (for want of action) of that which he was borne to inherit, (fancie) he went in quest of it into the Low Countreies, where (by his deare earnings

## Coniuring.

earnings ) hee bequeathed that to those of his name, with nothing, but his name seemed to deprive him of in England . Ost-end being besieged , hee lost one of his eyes , whilst hee looked ouer the walles , which first storme did rather driue him on to more dangerous aduentures, though to the hazard euen of a shipwracke, (then like a fearefull Merchant ) to runne his fortunes and reputation on ground , for the boysterous threatnings of euery idle billow. So this his resolution set vpon his rest, to leaue all the remainder of his body to that Countrey, which had taken from him one of the best iewells of his life, since it had a peece of him, he would not so dishonor the place, as to carry away the rest broken . Into the field therefore comes he, the fates putting both his eyes into one, (of purpose) because he should looke vpon none but his enemies : where, a battaile being to be fought, the desert aduanced him to aduance the Colours, by which dignitie, he became one of the fairest markes , which was then to be shot at: and where a great part of that daies glory was to be wonne ; for the Regent that followed his Ensigne, (by being hardly set to) giuing ground, and the enemies ambition, thirsting after his Colours, threw at all, in hope to winne them. But the destinies (who fought on their side) mistooke themselves , and in steede of striking the Colours out of his hand, smote him : in so much, that hee was twice shot, & twice runne through the body, yet would not surrender his hold for all those breaches,

K

but



## A knights

but stripping the prize for which they strove, off from the staffe that helde it vp, and wrapping his dying bodie in it, drew out his weapon, with which before his Collours could bee called his winding sheete, he threw himselfe into the thickest of danger: where after he had slaine a horseman, and two others most valiantlie, hee came off (halfe dead, halfe aliue,) brauely deliuering vp his spirit in the armes of none but his friendes and fellow souldiers.

So that (as if Fortune had beene iealous of her owne wauering,) death (at her intreatie) to kee him away, in the noone-tide of a happinesse, lest anie blacke euenings ouercasting should spoyle it with alteration. He was married to the honour of a fiede in the morning, and died in the Armes of it the same day, before it was spoyled of the mayden-head: so that it went away chaste and vnblemishable. To conclude, (Father Sculler) because I see wee are vppon landing, heere is as much as I can speake in his praise: he dyed *Auncient* in the very midst of his youth.

*Charon* hum'de and ind cryde well, and hauing rid his boat of them, dyrected them to those happie places, which were allotted out to none but  
*Martialists.*

CHAR.

# Coniuring.

## CHAP. IX.

*The Fildes of Ioye describ'de: None there must dwell,  
In purged Soules, and such as haue done well:  
Some Soldiers there: And some that ye'd in Love,  
Poets sit singing in the Baye-tree Greue,*



All the *Ferry man* was plying his Fares, & following his thirst, the wandering knight, (*Syr Dagonet*) having dispatch't with the *Duch*, & vnderstanding that hee vpon whole businesse hee went, was full at that time walking in one of the *St. Iuan Gardens*; hee meant to take that in his waye. But the Internall lawes barring him from entrance into those sacred palaces, he wasted the other to him, and then related (*verbatim*) his maisters answer and resolution: which the Suppliant receiues (considering he was now where he would be) with as few words as hee was wont to carry pence in his purse. The *Post* hauing as little to say to him, cast onely a sleight eye vppon all the *Elisian* courtiers (much like to a disdainfull phantasie *French man* when he comes into a straunge countrey, as though he travelled rather to be seen then to obserue) and vp hee leapes vpon one of the *Duch*'s hackneys, and away he rides, to follow his other worldly busines: about which whilst hee is damnablely swearing, let mee carrie you into those

## A knights

*Insula Fortunata*, ordained to be the *Abydings*, for none but blessed Soules.

The wailles that incompasse these goodly habitations, are white as the forehead of Heavens; they gylster like polliht *Tuorie*, but the stufte is syner: high they are, like the pillers that vphold the *Court of Iones*; & strong they are, as Towers built by Enchauntment: there is but one Gate to it All, and thats of refined Siluer: So narrowe it is, that but one at once can enter: Round about, weares it a gyrdle of waters, that are sweet, redolent, & Christalline: the leaues of the *vine* are not so pretious, the *Nectar* of the *Gods* nothing so delicious.

Walk into the *Groues*, you shall heare all sorts of birds melodiously singing: you shall see Swaynes desfly piping, and virgins chafly dancing. Shepheards there, lute as merily as Kings, and kings are glad to be companions with Shepheardes. The widow there complains of no wrong: the orphan sheads no teares, for *Conclousnes* cannot carrie it away with his Gold, nor *Crueltie* with the sway of *Greatnesse*, the poore Client needes see no Lawyer to pleade for him, for theres no *Iurie* to condemne him, nor Iudges to astonish him, there is all mirth, without immodestie: all health without base abusing of it: all sorts of *Wines* without intemperance: all Riches without Sensualitie: all Beauty without painting: all Loue without dissimulation. *Winter* there playes not the *Tyrant*, neither is the *Summers* breath pestilēt: for *Spring* is all the yere long, tricking vp the Boughes: so that the trees are euer flou-

## Coniuring.

flourishing, the fruites euer growing, the flowers euer budding: yea such cost, and such Arte is bestowed vppon the Arbours, that the very benches (whereon these *blest Inhabitants* sit) are sweet beds of violets: the beds whereon they lye, bancks of Muske-roses: their pillows hearts, are hearts-ease, their Sheetes the silken leaues of Willow.

Neither is this a *Common Inne*, to all *Travellers*, but the very Pallace wher *Happines* her selfe main-taines her *Court*, and none are allowed to followe her, but such as are of merit. Of all men in the world Landlords dare not quarter theselues here, because they are *Rackers of rents*: a pettifogger, that has taken brybes, wilbe dambd ere he come neere the gates. A *Fencer* is not allow'd to stand within 12. score of the Place: no more is a *Vintner*, nor a *Farmer*, nor a *Taylor*, vnlesse he creep through the eye of his Needle: no, and but fewe Gentlemen-Vishers. Women! (for all their subtiltie,) scarce one amongst five hundred has her pewe there, especially old Myd-wiues, Chamber-maides, & wayting-wenchs, their dooings are too well knowne, to be let into these lodgings. No, no, none can be free of these Liberties, but such as haue consciences without cracks, hands not spotted with vncleannesse; feete not worne out with walking to mischiefe, and heartes that neuer were hollowe. Listen therefore, and I will tel you what *Passengers* haue licence to land vpon these shores.

Young Infants that dye at the brest, and haue not suckt of their parents sinnes, are most welcom

## A knights

thither for their innocēcy. Holy fingers whose diuine *Anthemes* haue bound soules by their *charmes*, & whose lyes are Tapets of virgin waxe, set in siluer candlesticks, to guide Men out of errors darknes, they knowe their places there; and haue them for their Integrity.

Some Schollers are admitted into this societie, but the number of them all is not halfe so many as are in one of the Colledges of an Vniuersitie, and the reason is, they cyther kindle firebrands (in the thesanctified places) by their contention; or kill the hearts of others by their coldnes,

One field there is amongst all the rest, set round about with willows, It is call'd the field of *Mourning*, and in this (vpon banks of flowers that wither away, euen with the scorching sighes of those that sit vpon them,) are a band of *Malecontents*: they looke for all the world like the mad-folkes in bedlam, and desire (like them) to be alone, & these are *Forlorn louers*: such as pyn'de away to nothing, for nothing: such as for the loue of a *wanton wench*, haue gone crying to their graues, whilst she in the mean time, went (laughing to see such a *kindecoxcombe*) into anothers bed: All the ioye that these poore fooles feed vpon, is to sit singing lamentable ballades to some dolefull tunes: for tho they haue chang'de their olde lyes, they cannot forget their young loues; they spend their time in making of *myrtle garlands*, & shed so much water out of their eyes, that it hath made a prettie little river, which is so soaking continually at the roots of the willow

## Coniuring.

low trees, that halfe the leaues of them, are almost washt into a whitenes.

There is another piece of ground, where are incamped none but Soldiers : and of those, not all sortes of Soldiers neither, but onely such as haue died noblie in the warres : and yet of those, but a certaine number too : that is to say, such that in execution were neuer bloody in their Countries reuenge, seuerer, but not cruell : such as field death in one hand, and mercy in the other : such as neuer rauisht maidens, neuer did abuse no widowes, neuer gloried in the massacre of babes : were neuer druncke, of purpose before the battaile began, because they would spare none, nor after the battaile did neuer quarrell about pledging the health of his whoare. Of this Garrison, there are but a few in pay, & therefore they liue without *Minty*.

Beyond all these places is there a *Grone*, which stands by it selfe like an *Iland* ; for a streame (that makes musicke in the running) clasps it round about like a hoope girdle of christall : Laurels grow so thicke on all the bankes of it, that lightning it selfe if it came thither, hath no power to pierce through them. It seemes (without) a desolate and vnfrequented wood, (for those within are retyrde into themselves) but from thence come forth such harmonious sounds, that birds build nests onely in the trees there, to teach *Tamers* to their young ones prettily. This is called *The Grone of Bay Trees*, and to this *Consort-Rome*, resort none but the children of *Phæbus*, (*Poets* and *Musitians* :) the one creates

## A knights

creates the ditty, and giues it the life or number, the other lends it voyce, and makes it speake musick. When these happy Spirits sit asunder, their bodies are like so many Starres, and when they ioyn together in seuerall troopes, they shew like so many heauenly *Constellations*. Full of pleasant Bowers and queint Arboures is all this *Walke*. In one of which, old *Chaucer*, reuerend for prioritie, blythe in cheare, buxsome in his speeches, and benigne in his hauiour, is circled a round with all the Makers or Poets of his time, their hands leaning on one anothers shoulders, and their eyes fixt seriously vpon his, whilst their eares are all tied to his tongue, by the golden chaines of his *Numbers*; for here (like *Euanders* mother) they spake all in verse: no Attick eloquence is so sweete: their language is so pleasing to the goddes, that they vtter their Oracles in none other.

*Grave Spencer* was no sooner entred into this *Chappell of Apollo*, but these elder *Fathers of the diuine Furie*, gaue him a *Lawrer* & sung his *Welcome*: *Chaucer* call'de him his *Sonne*, and plac'de him at at his right hand. All of them (at a signe giuen by the whole *Quire* of the *Muses* that brought him thither,) closing vp their lippes in silence, and turning all their eares for attention, to heare him sing out the rest of his *Fayrie Queenes* praises.

In another companie sat learned *Watson*, industrious *Kyd*, ingenious *Atchlow*, and tho( hee had bene a *Player*, molded out of their pennes) yet because he had bene their *Louer*, and a *Register* to the  
*Muse,*



## Coniuring.

*Muses*, Inimitable *Bentley*: these were likewise car-  
rowing to one another at the holy well, some of  
them singing *Pans* to *Apollo*, some of them *Hymnes*  
to the rest of the Goddess, whilst *Marlow*, *Greene*,  
and *Peele* had got vnder the shades of a large *vyne*,  
laughing to see *Nash* (that was but newly come to  
their Colledge,) still haunted with the sharpe and  
*Satyricall spirit* that followd him heere vpon earth:  
for *Nash* inueyed bitterly (as he had wont to do) a-  
gainst dry-fisted Patrons, accusing them of his vn-  
timely death, because if they had giuen his *Muse*  
that cherishment which shee most worthily deser-  
ued, hee had led to his dying day on fat Capons,  
burnt sack and Suger, and not so desperately haue  
ventur'd his life, and shortend his dayes by kee-  
ping company with pickle herrings: the rest ask't  
him what newes in the world, hee told them that  
*Barbarisme* was now growne to bee an *Epidemiall*  
disease, and more common then the tooth-ache:  
being demaunded how Poets and Players agreed  
now, troth sayes hee, As Physicians and patients a-  
gree, for the patient loues his Doctor no longer  
then till hee get his health, and the Player loues a  
Poet, so long as the sicknesse lyes in the two-penie  
gallery when none will come into it: Nay (sayes  
he) into so lowe a miserie (if not contempt,) is the  
sacred Arte of Poesie fallne, that tho a wryter (who  
is worthy to sit at the table of the Sunne,) wast his  
braines, to earne applause from the more worthie  
Spirits, yet when he has done his best, hee workes  
but like *Ocnus*, that makes ropes in hell; for as hee

L

twists

## A knights Coniuring.

twists, an Asse stands by and bites them in sunder,  
and that Asse is no other than the Audience with  
hard hands. He had no sooner spoken this, but  
in comes *Chettle* swearing and blowing, by reason  
of his fatnes, to welcome whom, because hee was  
of olde acquaintance, all rose vp, and fell present-  
lie on their knees, to drinck a health to all the *Lo-  
uers of Hellicon*: in dooing which, they made  
such a mad noyse, that all this *Coniu-  
ring* which is past, (beeing but  
a dreame,) I suddenlie  
started vp, and am  
now awake.

FINIS.



Perfect  
As Given

REPRODUCED FROM THE COPY IN THE

HENRY E. HUNTINGTON LIBRARY

FOR REFERENCE ONLY. NOT FOR REPRODUCTION